The New-York Times.

VOL. XXIV.....NO. 7247. NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1874.—TRIPLE SHEET. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

OPENING OF CONGRESS.

RECEPTION OF THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

DISSATISFACTION OF THE INFLATIONISTS WITH THE FINANCIAL SUGGESTIONS—A DIGNIFIED AND FAIR PAPER — THE TREATMENT OF THE SOUTHERN QUESTION GENERALLY APPROVED.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—It may be said there is little fault found with the President's Message as a whole, though some of its views find strong and special opposition. All the inflationists denounce its treatment of the financial situation. Judge Kelley, who has purposely prepared the way to lead the opposition to specie resumption, proclaims his disgust upon the street corners. He remarked that the repeal of the Legal-tender act would be an action whose criminality would be greater than was the partition of Poland, and is probably referred to that as the greatest political crime he could recall in history. The proposition to repeal this act meets with much opposition among those who agree with the tone and purpose of the Message on the finances. Most of those who favor specie resumption prefer to accomplish it by some other means. The leading inflationists talk as though the repeal of this act would destroy all the prosperity and industries of the country, and bring the whole nation to the verge of insolvency and disruption. Of course, the spirit of their talk is less against this proposition than against the general financial views of the President. Except on the subject of the finances the Message is received with entire satisfaction by a few, with cordial approval, except in a few particulars, by many others, and in a sort of negative way by perhaps half the members of either House. A few members seem to delight to find fault and criticize, and they discover occasions to say many sharp things. The Message is regarded as a less aggressive document than either of the preceding ones. It has fewer strong points which attract either strong approval or opposition. If it meets with a less enthusiastic reception than previous Messages, it will also arouse less active hostility. It is spoken of by all as a dignified and fair paper, and some even speak of it as the best of President Grant's Messages. The recommendations of a change in the Tariff laws is not approved by high-tariff men, and of course free-traders oppose any recommendations which have any purpose of protection. No one supposes that there will be any revision of the tariff at this session. The proposition to increase the tax on whisky is favored by many and very warmly opposed by a large number of the members of the House. The objection raised is not specially against the increase of taxation, but is based upon the experience of the past with the whisky ring. If the tax could be raised in a night, and without the scandals that have always attached to attempts to legislate on this article, there would be little opposition to fixing the highest rate that could be collected. The scent of the whisky ring already pervades the air, as it did last Winter, when it seemed possible for a time that an increase of taxation would be necessary. Possibly this objection to an act which is acknowledged to be right in itself is a confession of the inability of Congress to grapple with the ring and maintain its own purity. The portion of the Message relating to the repeal of the moieties caused a little sensation in the House, and many eyes were turned toward the seats of the members of the Ways and Means Committee, and particularly toward Mr. Roberts, of New-York, who is now the most conspicuous figure in the group that brought about the legislation on that subject. Probably the portion of the Message which received the most general approval was that which treats of the condition of the South. As has been heretofore promised, the whole subject was referred to Congress, and the tone of the Message is as much opposed to further interference with Southern affairs by the Federal Government, beyond what may be necessary to prevent violence and murder from political causes, as the feeling on the same subject among any Republicans in Congress. The suggestion of a committee to determine whether outrages are real or manufactured for the occasion is not a recommendation, and it is hardly possible that another committee on that subject will be raised, though the proposition will doubtless be made in Congress in a few days.

THE LEADING IN THE SENATE.

At least one hour before the time for convening most of the Senators were in their places, or scattered around the chamber in groups conversing about politics and legislation. The galleries were filled, the space devoted to the diplomatic corps having a fair representation. At noon precisely Vice President Wilson took the chair, and the Chaplain, Dr. Sunderland, made a brief prayer. A call of the roll showed the following Senators absent: Brownlow, Buckingham, Fenton, Goldthwaite, Gordon, Harvey, Jones, Morton, Ransom, Sprague, Stewart. Senators Conkling and Thurman were appointed to wait on the President, and inform him that the Senate was ready to proceed to business. The credentials of Mr. Eaton, Senator elect from Connecticut, and Mr. Edmonds, from Vermont, were presented, when a recess was taken for an hour, at the expiration of which time Gen. Babcock was announced with "A message from the President in writing," which the Chief Clerk at once proceeded to read. The reading occupied over an hour, and was listened to with great interest. It was not difficult, in looking around the chamber, to determine who of the Senators were in accord with the sentiments of the Message. They wore a look of satisfaction, while those who differed from the Executive views, while not betraying any disappointment, plainly showed on their faces the opposition in their minds. That the portion referring to disturbances in the Southern States did not suit the ideas of Clayton and Dorsey was plainly manifest by their nervous movements. Among Senators generally, as was subsequently learned in conversation, the views of the Message in regard to Federal interference received unqualified approval. When the Clerk finished reading the closing sentence of the paragraph on that subject, commencing, "Treat the negro as a citizen and a voter, as he is and must remain," very many of the Senators exchanged approving glances, and it was noticeable that Carpenter, Conkling, Hamlin, Frelinghuysen, and Howe, whose seats are in proximity to each other, engaged in a whispered ratification. Upon the conclusion of the reading the Senate adjourned. Secretary Belknap and William M. Evarts occupied seats in the chamber during the reading of the Message. Sir Edward Thornton, British Minister, Ex-Senator Wade, and other prominent persons were upon the floor, and remained till after the message was read.

CLOSE ATTENTION GIVEN TO IT IN THE HOUSE.

In the House the Message was listened to with close attention except by a few. Only on two or three occasions was any demonstration of peculiar interest manifested, and they were when the increased tax upon whisky was mentioned, and when the allusion to the Moieties bill was read. The message was not much discussed among members after the adjournment, and few had any positive opinions or views to express.

MEXICO.

THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION TROMULGATED—BILLS IN CONGRESS—INDUSTRIAL.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 3, via HAVANA.—The articles of amendments to the Constitution making changes in the Congress and creating a Senate, having passed Congress, were solemnly promulgated as the law of the land with the firing of cannon, ringing of bells, and a grand military review by the President.

Debate is now progressing in Congress on a bill restricting the powers of the Roman Catholic Church. One clause provides for the complete separation of Church and State, and another for the expulsion of the Sisters of Charity from the republic.

A contract has been made for the construction of a railroad between the Capital and Leon, in the State of Guanajuato. It is reported that British capitalists are interested in the project.

Mr. Plumb's contract with the Executive is nearly completed, and will be presented to Congress for its sanction in a few days.

The terms of compromise offered the striking miners of the Real del Monte Company will probably be accepted and work soon resumed.

Satisfactory advices have been received from the Huitzuco quicksilver mines. Two hundred *tlacons* of quicksilver have lately been sent to Iguala.

SOUTH AMERICA.

FIFTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE ISTHMUS—THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT TO PRESERVE ORDER ON THE ISTHMUS—EARTHQUAKE.

PANAMA, Nov. 28.—To-day is the fifty-third anniversary of the independence of the Isthmus, and is likely to be celebrated with more than usual enthusiasm. Five days, it is officially announced, are to be devoted to the festivities of the occasion, consisting of religious ceremonials, military displays, public processions, bull-fighting, horse-races, fireworks, and other spectacles. During these days business will be almost completely suspended.

The Legislative Assembly of Panama has recognized and accepted the action of the National Government at Bogota in regard to the maintenance of public order in Panama and on the Isthmus Transit, and as being in no way derogatory to the sovereignty of the State.

Two newspaper editors have been arrested in Ecuador for expressing opinions objectionable to the existing administration.

A slight earthquake was felt at Guayaquil on the 13th inst.

THE PITTSBURG AND CONNELLSVILLE RAILROAD.

PITTSBURG, Penn., Dec. 7.—At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Pittsburg and Connellsville Railroad, held to-day, the following Board of Directors was elected for the ensuing year: Mendez Cohen, Baltimore; William S. Bissell, Pittsburg; G. L. B. Fleiterman, Pittsburg; William Baldwin, Pittsburg; William K. Riser, Baltimore; John Donnell Smith, Baltimore; William H. Perkins, Baltimore; H. G. Vickery, Baltimore; F. Sisson, Baltimore; Charles Webb, Baltimore; Israel Cohen, Baltimore, and George R. Dannes, Frederick, Md. President Cohen was unable to submit a report of the road, owing to the shortness of the time between the close of the fiscal year and the present meeting, and at his suggestion the date for the reports of the fiscal year was changed from Oct. 31 to Sept. 30. The next meeting will be held on the first Wednesday in February.

THE HILT CASE IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 7.—In the United States District Court the matter of George F. Hilt's application for admission to bail was again considered today. It was stated that the next session of the Circuit Court for the Southern District of New-York, to which the case of Hilt has been made returnable, begins on Wednesday of the present week, instead of the first Monday in February next, as before reported. The Judge said that as the time in which the accused would remain in custody of the New-York Marshal before the opening of the court at which his trial is fixed was inappreciable, he did not feel inclined to act definitely upon this application, but he continued the matter until Wednesday, with the intent that in the interval the Circuit Court for the Southern District of New-York should appoint a commissioner in this City to take bail for the prisoner's appearance when wanted for trial.

INCENDIARIES TO BE PUNISHED.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Dec. 7.—At a large mass-meeting held at Edgefield, S. C., to-day, a resolution was passed to lynch all persons, white or black, who may be caught setting fire to gin-houses or dwellings. Several speeches were made against the resolution. Among those who opposed the resolution were Gov. Bonham, Gen. Dunovan, and Capt. Lewis Jones, all prominent citizens. Much excitement prevailed during the meeting. A long list of gin-houses, dwellings, and barns, burned since the election, were read.

DISCOVERY OF THE SKELETON OF A MAN IN CHICAGO.

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—While some boys were playing on Erie street, in the North Division yesterday, they discovered the skeleton of a man in a coal vault belonging to a large mansion, which was burned during the great fire. The skeleton was sitting upright, with shreds of what evidently had been fine clothing clinging to the bones. A silk umbrella was lying by its side, and in one of the pockets were found a revolver, some foreign coins, and an empty phial labelled "hydrate chloral." On a finger was a seal ring marked "H. B.," but beyond this there is no clue to his identity.

BOSTON POLITICS.

BOSTON, Dec. 7.—The Democratic ward and city committees met to-night, and nominated a straight party ticket for Aldermen. The Citizens' Reform Party held a grand ratification meeting in Faneuil Hall to-night. There was a large attendance, and earnest speeches were made in favor of F. B. Hayes, nominee for Mayor. The call for the meeting invited all citizens opposed to rings and in favor of the election of officers pledged to an economical and impartial administration of affairs.

ROBBERY OF A STORE.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 7.—An *Enquirer* special gives an account of a daring robbery at Spades Station, Ind. On Saturday night last four men entered the store of J. & J. S. Colter, and, with drawn revolvers, demanded money. After obtaining about $30 in cash, two stood guard over those in the store while the others loaded wagons with the goods. Two of the thieves were arrested on Sunday.

AN INDIA CRY FOR VENGEANCE.

MONTREAL, Dec. 7.—The *Witness* to-night publishes the following curious letter:

OKA, Dec. 4.

Edi or Witness:

DEAR SIR: Will you insert in your paper these few lines: This morning between the hours of 9 and 10 A. M. the blood of an Indian Protestant was shed. For this offense the Iroquois cry for vengeance."

JOS. ONASAKENRAT, First Chief of the Iroquois.

GENS. SHERIDAN, POPE, AND SHERMAN IN CONFERENCE.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 7.—Lieut. Gen. Sheridan and Gen. Pope, with several members of their respective staffs, have been in conference with Gen. Sherman to-day. The nature of the consultation is as yet unknown.

WASHINGTON.

A TERRIBLE RAILROAD DISASTER PREVENTED.

A DAMAGED TRAIN RUNNING AT FEARFUL SPEED WITHOUT AN ENGINEER—COOLNESS OF SOME OF THE PASSENGERS—THE VIRGINIUS CLAIM AGAINST SPAIN.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Passengers who have arrived from the South to-night by the Orange and Alexandria Railroad give accounts of what came near being a disastrous accident this morning just this side of Orange Courthouse. The statement that is made is to the effect that the train had been delayed by some trouble with the locomotive, and at times was running very slow, and then fearfully fast. The train had stopped on a curve for some work to be done upon the engine, and it would seem that no signals had been sent back by the conductor or engineer, although on this point there is some dispute. At any rate, a freight train following came dashing around the curve, and though the engineer reversed his engine and did what he could to slack the speed, a collision occurred. The engine of the freight train ran into the sleeping car, where several persons were quite severely injured, some being cut about the head, but none were killed. In all about thirty persons were more or less injured. The cars of the passenger train were thrown together, and the platforms badly smashed, but the coaches were not uncoupled except in front of the sleeper. The passengers soon found the train, in its wrecked and broken condition, was speeding forward at a fearful rate, and some gentlemen from Baltimore attempted to stop it by ringing the bell, but got no response. With unusual bravery and presence of mind they ran forward through the train, and climbed over the tender of the engine, only to discover that the throttle was open, and no one was on the engine, which was found to be acting under a pressure of fifty pounds of steam. The train ran three or four miles in this way before it was stopped, and the escape from a fearful loss of life seems almost miraculous. The statement of the engineer in regard to the engine being abandoned is, that he had opened the valve to pull the train out, and was knocked from his seat by the collision. But the passengers have the opinion that he was frightened, and jumped without shutting off the steam. It is understood that a prompt investigation will be made by the officers of the company.

QUESTIONS UNDER DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN POWERS.

The only important questions under discussion with foreign powers, and unsettled, are referred to by the President in his Message. The claims of our Government against Spain, growing out of the Virginius affair, are the most important. The volume of diplomatic correspondence does not contain the correspondence, nor the instructions of Mr. Cushing, relative to these claims. It is understood a promise was made by Spain to make a settlement on account of the Virginius massacre before the day of the meeting of Congress; but, as the Message says, the negotiations have been protracted. It is not unreasonable to suppose that one cause of the delay has been the low condition of the Spanish Treasury, which probably makes it very difficult to divert from other purposes funds sufficient to pay the claims of this Government. The absence of this correspondence from the diplomatic volumes takes away a great part of its interest, though there are several interesting letters from Mr. Cushing containing accounts of the condition of Spanish affairs, and especially the Carlist war.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL.

The Civil Rights bill will be pushed forward this session by its most earnest supporters, including some members of the delegation from Massachusetts. It is thought by friends of the bill that its chances of passage are more favorable than last session, and more favorable than they would have been if the Republicans had been successful in the elections. There is now, they say, nothing to lose, politically, by the passage of the bill, which on the other hand would consolidate all the old anti-slavery vote, and it would be a very embarrassing political subject for the Democratic House of Representatives. The Democrats would, it is claimed, lose votes by leaving the bill unrepealed, and they would lose, on the other hand, by any attempt to repeal it. The friends of the bill think that its passage would be one of the wisest political measures of the session.

A DEMOCRATIC REJOICING.

A card of invitation has been issued by Fernando Wood for next Thursday evening. It is headed, "Justice is slow but sure," and then reads: "Mr. Fernando Wood respectfully asks your company to meet the Democratic and Conservative members of the Senate and House of Representatives, socially, on Thursday evening, the 10th inst., at 8 o'clock, for congratulations on account of the recent elections."

REPUBLICAN CAUCUSES.

Immediately upon adjournment the Republican Senators met in caucus, for the purpose of arranging the standing committees. A committee was appointed to report at an adjourned meeting to be held to-morrow, after the session of the Senate. A caucus of Republican members of the House will be held to-morrow evening for general consultation, and with a view to agreeing upon a line of policy to be pursued during the session. It is expected that an effort will be made to harmonize views on the finance and civil rights questions, but the prevalent opinion is that such an effort will result in failure.

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF THE NEW CONGRESS IN MARCH.

The policy of re-enacting the law requiring Congress to organize on the 4th of March will be considered, and will be urged by Gen. Butler and others. Butler says that if the Democrats have a better policy in regard to national affairs than the Republicans, they should be given the earliest opportunity to develop it, and if they purpose starting on a tour of general investigation of the executive departments, they should be allowed to begin as early as possible, in order that they may sooner get through.

Dispatch to the Associated Press.

MR. PHELPS' OBJECT IN INTRODUCING HIS PRESS LAW REPEAL BILL.

The object of Mr. Phelps, of New-Jersey, in bringing forward his bill for the repeal of the "Press-gag" law, at a time when it could be defeated by a single objection, was in order to have the bill printed in the *Record*, and thus have the attention of the House and of the country called to it.

NAVAL ORDERS.

Master Henry T. Monahan has been ordered to the Roanoke; Ensign H. P. McIntosh to the Monocacy, on the Asiatic station; Pay Inspector James M. Carpenter to the navy-yard at Pensacola, Fla., on the 1st of January next; Lieut. John T. Sullivan has been detached from the Roanoke and ordered to special duty in connection with the further survey of the Isthmus of Darien; Master Giles B. Harker from the Monocacy and ordered home; Passed Assistant Paymaster W. J. Thomson, from the navy-yard at Pensacola, Fla., and ordered to settle his accounts.

RECEIPTS AT THE REDEMPTION AGENCY.

The Redemption Agency received on Saturday last drafts amounting to $1,147,000 from national banks, to reimburse the Treasurer for their notes redeemed. This amount was chiefly from banks in New-York, Boston, and Philadelphia. The largest draft was from the National Bank of Commerce, of New-York, and its amount was $110,300.

THE NOMINATION OF MR. JEWELL.

The President sent to the Senate to-day only one nomination, namely, that of Marshall Jewell, of Connecticut, to be Postmaster General.

FERNANDO WOOD ENTERTAINING THE DEMOCRATS.

Representative Fernando Wood has issued invitations to meet the Democratic and Conservative members of the Senate and House of Representatives socially, at his residence, on Thursday evening next, in congratulation of the recent elections. The card is headed, "Justice is slow, but sure."

THE SAFE BURGLARY CASE.

The Criminal Court Term for December commenced to-day, Judge Arthur presiding. Allusion was made to the decision of the court in General Term, on Saturday, declaring the Grand Jury illegal, and the Judge discharged the jury from further attendance. Harrington, in the absence of his counsel, desired to withdraw the pleas in abatement filed in the safe burglary case, and by the plea of "not guilty" to the general issue, to waive any technicalities whatever, and, if the court would send for Mr. Riddle, he would like further to move that as early a day as possible be fixed for the trial of the case. The proceedings were postponed till to-morrow, when all the counsel will be notified to appear in court.

LOUISIANA.

THE NEW-ORLEANS CITY ATTORNEYSHIP—A LEGAL QUESTION—THE ELECTION RETURNS.

NEW-ORLEANS, La., Dec. 7.—City Attorney Lacey resigned a few days ago, and suggested the necessity of at once filling the vacancy. The City Council accordingly elected B. F. Jonas City Attorney, but when he went to take possession of his office this morning he found one of Mr. Lacey's late assistants in possession, with a commission from Gov. Kellogg appointing him, Walshe, City Attorney, vice Lacey, resigned. The City Administrators held a meeting, and after examining the law, became satisfied they had the power to elect a City Attorney, and that Walshe was an interloper. They went to the City Attorney's office and requested Walshe to turn it over to Jonas, which he at first declined to do, but as the Administrators were present to put him out, he finally turned over the keys, books, and papers to Mayor Leeds, and withdrew under protest, stating he would contest the matter before the courts.

The Returning Board are getting along slowly. The returns from about twenty parishes were contested and laid aside. About fifteen of them gave Conservative majorities. It is now believed the board will promulgate the returns from the other parishes, thus giving a Republican majority in the Legislature.

THE WEATHER.

SYNOPSIS AND PROBABILITIES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8—1 A. M.—Clear and cooler weather prevails in the South Atlantic and Gulf States, with high northerly winds and increased pressure; generally cloudy weather prevails in the lower lake region, New-England and the Middle States, the Upper Ohio Valley, and East Tennessee, with lower temperature and areas of light snow, except near the coast; clear or partly cloudy weather continues in the North-west and upper lake region, where the temperature is below freezing. The barometer is low off the East Atlantic coast and North Minnesota. It has risen and is highest in the Mississippi Valley.

The rivers have fallen at St. Louis and Nashville, and risen at Vicksburg.

PROBABILITIES.

For the South Atlantic and Eastern Gulf States, clear and cool weather will prevail, with north or west winds and rising barometer.

For the Western Gulf States, clear weather, easterly or southerly winds, rising temperature, and falling barometer.

For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, clear or clearing weather, south-west to north-west winds, low but rising temperature, and rising followed by falling barometer.

For the upper lake region and the North-west, clear or fair weather, southerly or westerly winds, increasing in force, rising temperature, and falling barometer.

For New-England, the Middle States, and the lower lake region, partly cloudy and colder weather with north-west winds, rising barometer, and light snow in Northern New-England, Northern New-York, near Lake Ontario, and Western Pennsylvania.

For the canal regions of New-York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, the temperature will fall below freezing during Tuesday night.

Cautionary signals continue at Duluth.

IN THIS CITY.

The following record shows the changes in the temperature during the past twenty-four hours, in comparison with the corresponding date of last year, as recorded at Hudnut's pharmacy:

	1873.	1874.		1873.	1874.
3 A. M.	29°	38°	3:30 P. M.	35°	43°
6 A. M.	28°	38°	6 P. M.	34°	41°
9 A. M.	30°	40°	9 P. M.	33°	38°
12 M.	35°	41°	12 P. M.	32°	37°

Average temperature yesterday.....39½°

Average temperature for corresponding date last year.....32°

AN ABSCONDING CHICAGO WOOL MERCHANT.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 7.—It was discovered to-day that W. F. Thomas, junior member of the wool commission firm of Reynolds, Corbett & Thomas, had absconded, leaving behind him liabilities incurred in various irregular ways, of $30,000. Thomas was always supposed to be a man of considerable wealth and of the strictest integrity, and his reported irregularities have caused great surprise among those who knew him. It appears that he has borrowed money from banks and private individuals, giving his own notes, and afterward taking up the notes with warehouse receipts, signed with the firm name and indorsed to himself, and this he did without the knowledge and against the wishes of his partners, who were opposed to the issuing of warehouse receipts at all. The other members of the firm received such warning of Thomas' troubles as to enable them to secure their consignees against any loss whatever, and it is reported that Thomas' relatives, who are wealthy, will make up his deficiencies.

SWINDLING LABORERS.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 7.—A descent was made to-day on an office advertising for laborers to work on a railroad, the applicants being required to pay an installment in advance. Several hundred men were saved from losing their money by the prompt action of the police. No arrests were made.

THE MOISIE IRON COMPANY CASE.

MONTREAL, Dec. 7.—Proceedings in the celebrated case of Griffin vs. Molson, were, after examination of witnesses and settlement of interrogatories, adjourned until Feb. 1, 1875. This case involves the title and possession of the Moisie Iron Company, and is said to be worth over a million of dollars.

LOCK-OUT OF PUDDLERS IN PITTSBURG.

PITTSBURG, Penn., Dec. 7.—The situation between the iron manufacturers and puddlers of this city is that of a dead-lock. Of 300 furnaces in this county but seventy-three are running, and these only temporarily, until certain contracts are filled.

LATEST NEWS BY CABLE.

FRANCE.

A CHANGE IN THE MINISTRY PROBABLE ABOUT JANUARY—THE CONTINUANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY—CENSURE OF GARIBALDI.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—Information has been received from sources entitled to credit that President MacMahon has decided to form a new Ministry at the end of January—one which will give hearty support to the constitutional bills. It is intimated that the Duc De Broglie will become a member of the new Cabinet, and Gen. De Cissey, Minister of War will resign when the bill on the military *cadres* is passed.

The idea of the partial renewal of the Assembly by periodical elections is gaining ground among all parties, and a motion to that effect will probably be soon introduced in the Chamber.

The committee appointed to inquire into the operations of the army in the east of France during the late war reported to the Assembly to-day. They condemn Garibaldi for quitting his command toward the close of the war without leave, and say if he was a French General he should be tried by court-martial.

THE HOLIDAY RECESS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

LONDON, Dec. 8.—A Paris telegram to the *Standard* says the Assembly will adjourn on the 19th inst. until Jan. 11.

THE NIEVRE ELECTION INVESTIGATION—THE MINISTRY.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—The bureau of the Assembly charged with investigating the validity of M. Bguroing's election in the Department of Nievre, have requested M. Tailbrand, Minister of Justice, to furnish documents in his possession relative to the Bonapartist election committee. This the Minister refuses to do. Should he persist in his refusal the Bureau will refer the matter to the Assembly, which would produce a Cabinet crisis.

It is reported that Gen. Cissey, Minister of War, has reconsidered his intention of resigning, a compromise having been effected in the matter of the military *cadres*.

GERMANY.

THE ALSACE AND LORRAINE DEPUTIES AND THE LOAN BILLS—THE VON ARNIM TRIAL.

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—The Reichstag has decided to ignore the refusal of the Deputies from Alsace and Lorraine to serve in the Committee on the Budget and Loan Bills for those provinces.

Prof. Holzendorff will undertake the defense of Count Von Arnim.

SPAIN.

THE BISHOP OF URGEL ABANDONS THE CARLIST CAUSE.

MADRID, Dec. 7.—The Bishop of Urgel, until lately a hot adherent of Don Carlos, has written a letter announcing his abandonment of the Carlist cause, and stating that he has advised Don Alfonso to take the same course. He declares that he will remain in his diocese, even if the Republican troops regain possession.

THE CARLIST HEAD-QUARTERS—GEN. DORREGARAY IN COMMAND OF THE CENTRE.

SANTANDER, Dec. 7.—Advices from the Carlist General Head-quarters have been received. Gen. Dorregaray has returned there, and been appointed to the command of the Army of the Centre. Gen. Tristany commands in the North.

It is expected that Marshal Serrano will order a general attack on the Carlist lines in Navarre.

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—It is reported that the Foreign Office will ask the Government of the United States if the Arctic expedition fitting out in Great Britain can have the stores left with the wreck of the Polaris on the coast of Greenland.

THE ERIE INJUNCTION DISSOLVED.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—The injunction obtained on Wednesday last in the Chancery Court by Mr. McKenna against the Erie Railway Company was to-day dissolved by that court.

SUSPENSION OF A RITUALISTIC CLERGYMAN.

LONDON, Dec. 7.—Rev. Mr. Makonochie, a prominent Ritualistic clergyman, has been suspended for six weeks from the exercise of his clerical functions.

STRIKE OF THIRTY THOUSAND OPERATIVES IN DUNDEE, SCOTLAND.

LONDON, Dec. 8—5 A. M.—The operatives in the Dundee jute mills, to the number of 30,000, have struck work in consequence of a reduction of wages.

THE INTERNATIONAL LAW CONFERENCE.

LONDON, Dec. 8—5:30 A. M.—The *Times* states that England, in reply to Russia's invitation to attend the International Law Conference, to be reopened at St. Petersburg has declared her willingness to do so, but regrets that she is unable to anticipate any practical result of its deliberations.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

EVACUATION OF FORMOSA BY THE JAPANESE.

HONG KONG, Dec. 7.—The Japanese troops evacuated the Island of Formosa on the 3d inst.

THE NETHERLANDS.

TRANSFER OF THE MINISTER AT WASHINGTON TO ROME.

THE HAGUE, Dec. 7.—M. Bernhard De Westenberg, Minister Resident of the Netherlands at Washington, has been transferred to the Dutch Legation at Rome.

CUBA.

ADDITIONAL TROOPS FROM SPAIN EXPECTED.

HAVANA, Dec. 7.—The *Diario* reports that telegrams from Madrid show that the Government is preparing to send additional reinforcements to Cuba.

THE ST. MARY'S SCHOOL-SHIP FOR NEW-YORK.

BOSTON, Dec. 7.—The sailing-frigate St. Mary's, fitted out at this Navy-yard for service as a school-ship for the State of New-York, will sail hence to-day in convoy of the United States steamer Gettysburg. The St. Marys is the first vessel fitted out in accordance with the act of Congress passed at the last session, which places a vessel at the disposal of each State for the education of seamen for the mercantile marine.

HEAVY FAILURE IN SPRINGFIELD.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 7.—Josiah Cummings, trunk manufacturer, in this place, has failed with liabilities estimated at $120,000. The amount of his assets is unknown.

METHODIST MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARY.

BOSTON, Dec. 7.—The anniversary exercises of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church to-day were peculiarly interesting. The Conference of Ministers this morning, presided over by Bishop Wiley, was addressed by Bishop Janes, Rev. Drs. Curry, Woodruf, and Ridgeway, of New-York, Oliver Hoyt, and others. There was a mass-meeting at Tremont Temple to-night, which was well attended, and was addressed by the same ministers.

LOSSES BY FIRE.

A fire yesterday morning, at Ridgetown, Ont., destroyed the following property: Store and bakery owned by Kirby & Gibson, loss $800, insured in the Canada Farmers' Mutual; W. H. Westland, loss on buildings $2,000, insured in the Niagara District; Cronk's boot and shoe store, loss $1,000, insured in the Lancashire and Provincial; Mrs. Morgan, loss $1,000, insured in the Provincial. The Montreal Telegraph Company's office was also burned.

At about 8:30 o'clock last night the Courthouse at Franklin, Iowa, was discovered to be on fire in the cupola, and in a few minutes afterward the entire building was in flames, and was completely destroyed. Most of the records were burned. It was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary. This makes the third incendiary fire there in two weeks.

A fire at Fredericktown, Ohio, Saturday night last, destroyed the flouring mill of Messrs. King, Kendall & Sellers. The loss is $15,000; insurance $7,500, in Western companies.

A block of buildings owned by Mr. Mann, at Fall River, Mass., were burned Sunday night. The loss is $4,000; insurance $2,500.

LOCAL FIRES.

Shortly after 2 o'clock yesterday morning, a fire, which is said to be the work of incendiaries, destroyed eight tenements and stores in the business centre of the village of East New-York. The buildings were each three stories in height, and built of wood. When the fire was first discovered the village Fire Department was called out, but the wretched hand-engines were unable to contend with the flames. Aid was telegraphed for to Brooklyn, and Fire Commissioner Massey sent it in the shape of steamer No. 14, but the fire was not mastered until the entire block was destroyed. Five of the buildings were owned by G. G. Guild, of New-York; two by Mr. Resigue, a lumber dealer of the Eastern District, and one by J. A. Wanley, of the village. Each of the buildings were valued at $5,000, and all are insured. Wanley's insurance is $2,000 in the Hartford Company, and $1,000 in the New-York Insurance Company. Resigue's buildings are insured in the Williamsburg City Company. The insurance on Guild's premises could not be learned. The occupants of the stores were J. A. Ackerbock, Yankee notions; G. Robins, grocer; A. Grumbert, grocer; J. Cook, oils and lamps; and Fritz Stubie, butcher. None of these tradesmen saved any of their goods. Their losses are estimated at $15,000, and that on the buildings $40,000, making the total loss $55,000.

Shortly before 3 o'clock yesterday morning, a fire broke out in the larger-beer saloon of A. Volaske & William Wittgneck, on the first floor of the premises No. 273 Third avenue. The upper floors of the building are occupied as a dwelling by the proprietors of the saloon and Anthony Wittgneck, the bartender. When the fire broke out the proprietors and the bartender were in bed on the second floor of the building, and the flames spread so rapidly that they were unable to make their exit by the stairway leading to the lower floor, and were compelled to jump from the windows of the second floor. The proprietors escaped uninjured, but Anthony Wittgneck, the bartender, received severe injuries, and was removed to Bellevue Hospital. The loss by the fire will not exceed $500; insured for $1,700 in the Relief Company. The proprietors of the saloon were arrested on suspicion of arson, and were held for examination by Fire Marshal Sheldon.

BY MAIL AND TELEGRAPH.

The receipts of internal revenue yesterday were $646,147.

The Montreal *Herald* intimates that the sliding scale clause has been eliminated from the proposed Reciprocity Treaty.

The inquest on the body of Patrick Smith, in Boston, yesterday, resulted in a verdict of death at the hands of his son-in-law, William Lunney.

Hanford, who was arrested for the murder of Noonan, in Court street, Boston, on Sunday, was discharged yesterday for want of evidence.

Miss Abbie Storrer, of Saco, Me., aged twenty-eight years, committed suicide by hanging, yesterday, while laboring under temporary insanity.

Charles Chesebro, a young man, of Stonington, Conn., was lost overboard from the schooner Perine, near the Long Island shore, opposite New-Haven, Sunday night.

The United States Treasurer yesterday received a letter from Newark, N. J., containing $130 conscience money. No further explanation was contained in the letter.

A young man named John Richardson left Campbell's Hotel, Hamilton, Ont., on Wednesday, for the purpose of depositing $500 in the bank, and has not since been heard of.

The town of Conway, Mass., is suffering severely from typhoid fever, eighteen deaths, including several adults, having occurred within a few weeks. The schools have closed.

Yesterday afternoon, in Montreal, A. McC. Sutherland was arrested under a writ of capias, issued at the instance of H. D. Phillips, in a suit for the recovery of $50,000 for illegal arrest.

While Rev. W. H. Rennelson was preaching in Knox Church, Hamilton, Ont., last Sunday evening, burglars entered his residence and stole several hundred dollars' worth of silver and plated ware.

Hon. Eben S. Poor, well-known in the leather trade of Boston, and prominent in the Republican Party as a member of the Massachusetts Senate and House of Representatives, died there yesterday.

In the Vice Admiralty Court at Quebec, Mr. Justice Stuart awarded £100, besides all expenses, to the Corporation of Pilots, as salvors of the bark Dunbrody, found ashore at Mille Vaches, and brought to that port in October last.

The Western Union Telegraph Company on Sunday opened offices at Fair Play and Alma, Colorado. The latter place is supposed to be the highest regular telegraph station in the world, being 10,500 feet above the level of the sea.

Joseph Grinnell, whose father lives in Providence, R. I., hanged himself on Plain Hills, near Norwich, Conn., on Sunday afternoon. He lived over fifteen years with the Misses Morse, of Norwich. He jumped or fell fifteen feet with the rope around his neck.

OBITUARY.

Rev. Dr. Joseph Kimball, a prominent clergyman of the American Reformed Church, and Pastor of the Joralemon Street Church, Brooklyn, died at Newburg, N. Y., on Sunday, of brain disease. He was attacked by it while preaching in his pulpit in May last, and has been incapacitated for pastoral labor since. The funeral will take place at 1 o'clock Thursday afternoon. Brooklyn clergymen will participate. The deceased was fifty-four years of age, and had been in the ministry thirty years.

Joseph Bancroft, cotton manufacturer, of Wilmington, Del., and a member of the Society of Friends, died there yesterday, after a lingering illness.

DEATH OF A CANADIAN VETERAN.

AMHERSTBURG, Ontario, Dec. 7.—An old veteran, named Louis Maurier, died in this town on Saturday last at the age of eighty years. He was engaged in several battles during the war of 1812, and was one of the witnesses of Tecumseh's death.

LYNCHING.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 7.—The *Republican* has a special saying: "Dr. Enab, charged with committing several burglaries and arsons during the past few months in Concordia, was hanged by a mob last night six miles from that village."

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

AN EMPHATIC DECLARATION FOR HARD MONEY.

NO SUBSTANTIAL PROSPERITY WITHOUT A RETURN TO SPECIE PAYMENTS—THE BURDENS AND DISADVANTAGES OF A PAPER CURRENCY—CONGRESS URGED TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION—OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS—NATIONAL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES—MILITARY, NAVAL, AND POSTAL—LOUISIANA—A PLEA FOR TRUTH AND FAIRNESS—CIVIL SERVICE REFORM—THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

Since the convening of Congress one year ago the nation has undergone a prostration in business and industries such as has not been witnessed with us for many years. Speculation as to the causes for this prostration might be indulged in without profit, because as many theories would be advanced as there would be independent writers. Therefore I will call your attention only to the fact, and to some questions as to which it would seem there should be no disagreement.

TWO ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF PROSPERITY.

During this prostration two essential elements of prosperity have been most abundant—labor and capital—both have been largely unemployed. Where security has been undoubted, capital has been attainable at very moderate rates. Where labor has been wanted it has been found in abundance, at cheap rates, compared with what of necessaries and comforts of life could be purchased with the wages demanded. Two great elements of prosperity, therefore, have not been denied us. A third might be added. Our soil and climate are unequalled within the limits of any contiguous territory under one nationality for its variety of products to feed and clothe a people, and in the amount of surplus to spare to feed less favored peoples. Therefore, with these facts in view, it seems to me that wise statesmanship at this session of Congress would dictate legislation ignoring the past, directing in proper channels these great elements of prosperity to any people.

THE DEBT AND THE CURRENCY—THEIR EFFECT.

Debt abroad is the only element that can, with always a sound

be sought for and. There are others which I may call upon hereafter.

THE DISADVANTAGES OF A PAPER CURRENCY.

A nation dealing in a currency below that of specie in value, labors under two great disadvantages.

First—Having no use for the world's acknowledged mediums of exchange, gold and silver. These are driven out the country because there is no demand for their use.

Second—The medium of exchange in use being of a fluctuating value—for, after all, it is only worth just what it will purchase of gold and silver metals having an intrinsic value, just in proportion to the honest labor it takes to produce them—a larger margin must be allowed for profit by the manufacturer and producer. It is months from the date of production to the date of realization. Interest upon capital must be charged and the risk of fluctuation in the value of that which is to be received in payment added. Hence high prices acting as a protection to the foreign producer, who receives nothing in exchange for the product of his skilled labor, except a currency good at no staple value the world over.

THE BURDEN FALLS ON THE WORKING AND ON THE SALARIED MAN.

It seems to me that nothing is clearer than that the greater part of the burden of existing prostration for the want of a sound financial system falls upon the working man, who must, after all, produce the wealth, and upon the salaried man, who superintends and conducts business. The burden falls upon them in two ways—by the deprivation of employment and by the decreased purchasing power of their salaries.

SUGGESTIONS TO CONGRESS FOR A RETURN TO SPECIE PAYMENTS.

It is the duty of Congress, and not mine, to devise the method of correcting the evils which are acknowledged to exist. But I will venture to suggest two or three things which seem to me as absolutely necessary to a return to specie payments—the first great requisite in a return to prosperity. The legal tender clause to the law authorizing the issue of currency by the National Government should be repealed, to take effect as to all contracts entered into after a day fixed in the repealing act, not to apply, however, to payments of salaries by Government, or for other expenditures now provided for by law in currency. In the interval pending between the repeal and final resumption, provision should be made by which the Secretary of the Treasury can obtain gold as it may become necessary from time to time, from the date when specie redemption commences. To this might and should be added a revenue sufficiently in excess of expenses to insure an accumulation of gold in the Treasury to sustain redemption. I commend this subject to your careful consideration, believing that a favorable solution is attainable, and that if reached by this Congress the present and future generations will ever gratefully remember it as their deliverer from a thralldom of evil and disgrace.

FREE BANKING MAY GO WITH RESUMPTION.

With resumption free banking may be authorized with safety, giving the full protection to bill-holders which they have under existing laws. Indeed, I would regard free banking as essential. It would give proper elasticity to the currency; as more currency should be required for the transaction of legitimate business, new banks would be started, and in turn banks would wind up their business when it was found there was a superabundance of currency. The experience and judgment of the people can best decide just how much currency is required for the transaction of the business of the country. It is unsafe to leave the settlement of this question to Congress, the Secretary of the Treasury, or the Executive. Congress should make the regulation under which banks may exist, but should not make banking a monopoly by limiting the amount of redeemable paper currency that shall be authorized.

GREAT IMPORTANCE OF THE FINANCIAL PROBLEM.

Such importance do I attach to this subject, and so earnestly do I commend it to your attention, that I give it prominence by introducing it at the beginning of this Message.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

During the past year nothing has occurred to disturb general friendly and cordial relations of the United States with other powers. The correspondence submitted herewith between this Government and its diplomatic representatives, as also with the representatives of other countries, shows a satisfactory condition of all questions between the United States and the most of those countries, and with few exceptions, to which reference is hereafter made, the absence of any points of difference to be adjusted.

THE TREATY WITH BELGIUM.

The notice directed by the resolution of Congress of June 17, 1874, to be given to terminate the convention of July 17, 1858, between the United States and Belgium, has been given, and the treaty will accordingly terminate on the first day of July, 1875. This convention secured to certain Belgian vessels entering the ports of the United States exceptional privileges which are not accorded to our own vessels. Other features of the convention have proved satisfactory and have tended to the cultivation of mutually beneficial commercial intercourse and friendly relation between the two countries. I hope that negotiations which have been invited will result in the making of another treaty which may tend to the interests of both countries.

OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA—THE FORMOSAN AFFAIR.

Our relations with China continue to be friendly. During the past year the fear of hostilities between China and Japan, growing out of the landing of an armed force upon the Island of Formosa by the latter, has occasioned uneasiness. It is earnestly hoped, however, the difficulties arising from this cause will be adjusted, and that the advance of civilization in these Empires may not be retarded by a state of war. In consequence of the part taken by certain citizens of the United States in this expedition, our representatives in these countries have been instructed to impress upon the Governments of China and Japan the firm intention of this country to maintain strict neutrality, in the event of hostilities, and to carefully prevent any infraction of law on the part of our citizens.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

In connection with this subject I call the attention of Congress to a generally conceded fact, that the great proportion of the Chinese immigrants who come to our shores do not come voluntarily to make their homes with us and their labor productive of general prosperity, but come under contracts with head men, who own them almost absolutely. In a worse form does it apply to Chinese women. Hardly a perceptible percentage of them perform any honorable labor, but they are brought for shameful purposes, to the disgrace of the communities where settled, and to the great demoralization of the youth of those localities. If this evil practice can be legislated against, it will be my pleasure as well as duty to enforce any resolution to secure so desirable an end.

THE JAPANESE INDEMNITY.

It is hoped that negotiations between the Government of Japan and the treaty powers, looking to the further opening of the Empire and to the removal of various restrictions upon trade and travel, may soon produce the results desired, which cannot fail to inure to the benefit of all the parties. Having on previous occasions submitted to the consideration of Congress the propriety of the release of the Japanese Government from the further payment of the indemnity under the convention of Oct. 22, 1864, and as no action had been taken thereon, it became my duty to regard the obligations of the convention as in force, and as the other powers interested have received their portion of the indemnity in full, the Minister of the United States in Japan has, in behalf of this Government, received the remainder of the amount due to the United States under the convention of Simonoseky. I submit the propriety of applying the income of a part, if not of the whole of this fund, to the education in the Japanese language of a number of young men to be under obligations to serve the Government for a specified time as interpreters at the legation and consulates in Japan. A limited number of Japanese youths might at the same time be educated in our vernacular, and mutual benefit would result to both Governments. The importance of having our own citizens competent and familiar with the language of Japan, to act as interpreters and in other capacities connected with the Legation and the consulates in that country, cannot be readily overestimated.

THE MIXED COMMISSION—FOREIGN CLAIMS.

The amount awarded to the Government of Great Britain by the Mixed Commission organized under the provisions of the Treaty of Washington, in settlement of the claims of British subjects arising from acts committed between April 13, 1861, and April 9, 1865, became payable, under the terms of the treaty, within the past year, and was paid upon the 21st day of September, 1874. In this connection I renew my recommendation, made at the opening of the last session of Congress, that a special court be created to hear and determine all claims of aliens against the United States, arising from acts committed against their persons or property during the insurrection. It appears equitable that opportunity should be offered to citizens of other States to present their claims as well as to those British subjects whose claims were not admissible, under the late commission, to the early decision of some competent tribunal. To this end I recommend the necessary legislation to organize a court to dispose of all claims of aliens, of the nature referred to, in an equitable and satisfactory manner, and to relieve Congress and the departments from the consideration of these questions.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The legislation necessary to extend to the colony of Newfoundland certain articles of the Treaty of Washington of the 8th day of May, 1871, having been had, a protocol to that effect was signed in behalf of the United States and Great Britain on the 28th day of May last, and was duly proclaimed on the following day. A copy of the proclamation is submitted herewith.

THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION.

A copy of the report of the Commissioner appointed under the act of March 19, 1872, for surveying and marking the boundary between the United States and the British Possessions from the Lake of the Woods to the summit of the Rocky Mountains, is herewith transmitted. I am happy to announce that the field work of the commission has been completed, and the entire line from the north-west corner of the Lake of the Woods to the summit of the Rocky Mountains has been run and marked upon the surface of the earth. It is believed that the amount remaining unexpended of the appropriation made at the last session of Congress will be sufficient to complete the office work. I recommend that the authority of Congress be given to the use of the unexpended balance of the appropriation in the completion of the work of the commission in making its report and preparing necessary maps.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS COMMISSION COURT.

The court known as the Court of Commissioners of Alabama Claims, created by an act of Congress of the last session, has organized and commenced its work, and it is to be hoped that the claims admissible under the provisions of the act may be speedily ascertained and paid.

AMERICAN CITIZENS IN TURKEY.

It has been deemed advisable to exercise the discretion conferred upon the Executive at the last session by accepting the conditions required by the Government of Turkey for the privilege of allowing citizens of the United States to hold real estate in the former country, and by assenting to a certain change in the jurisdiction of courts in the latter. A copy of the proclamation upon these subjects is herewith communicated.

OUR RELATIONS WITH THE SPANISH REPUBLICS.

There has been no material change in our relations with the independent States of this hemisphere, which were formerly under the dominion of Spain. Marauding on the frontiers, between Mexico and Texas, still frequently takes place, despite the vigilance of the civil and military authorities in that quarter. The difficulty of checking such trespasses along the course of a river of such length as the Rio Grande, and so fordable, is obvious. It is hoped that the efforts of this Government will be seconded by those of Mexico, to the effectual suppression of the acts of wrong. From a report upon the condition of the business before the American and Mexican Joint Commission, made by the agent on the part of the United States, and dated Oct. 28, 1874, it appears that of the 1,017 claims filed on the part of citizens of the United States, 483 had been finally decided and 75 were in the hands of the umpire, leaving 462 to be disposed of; and of the 998 claims filed against the United States, 726 had been finally decided, 1 was before the Umpire, and 271 remained to be disposed of. Since the date of such report other claims have been disposed of, reducing somewhat the number still pending, and others have been passed upon by the arbitrators. It has become apparent, in view of these figures and of the fact that the work devolving on the umpire is particularly laborious, that the commission would be unable to dispose of the entire number of claims pending prior to the first day of February, 1875, the date fixed for its expiration. Negotiations are pending looking to the securing of the results of the decisions which have been reached, and to a further extension of the commission for a limited time, which, it is confidently hoped, will suffice to bring all the business now before it to a final close. The strife in the Argentine Republic is to be deplored, both on account of the parties thereto and from the probable effects on the interests of those engaged in the trade to that quarter, of whom the United States are among the principal. As yet, so far as I am aware, there has been no violation of our neutrality rights, which, as well as our duties in that respect, it shall be my endeavor to maintain and observe. It is with regret I announce that no further payment has been received from the Government of Venezuela on account of awards in favor of citizens of the United States. Hopes have been entertained that if the republic could escape both foreign and civil war for a few years its great natural resources would enable it to honor its obligations. Though it is now understood to be at peace with other countries a serious insurrection is reported to be in progress in an important region of that republic. This may be taken advantage of as another reason to delay the payment of the dues of our citizens.

CUBA.

The deplorable strife in Cuba continues without any marked change in the relative advantages of the contending forces. The insurrection continues, but Spain has gained no superiority. Six years of strife give the insurrection a significance which cannot be denied. Its duration, and the tenacity of its adherence, together with the absence of manifested power of suppression on the part of Spain, cannot be controverted, and may make some positive steps on the part of other powers a matter of self-necessity.

OUR RELATIONS WITH SPAIN.

I had confidently hoped at this time to announce the arrangement of some of the important questions between this Government and that of Spain, but the negotiations have been protracted. The unhappy intestine dissensions of Spain command our profound sympathy, and must be accepted as, perhaps, a cause of some delay. An early settlement, in part at least, of the questions between the Governments is hoped. In the meantime, awaiting the results of immediately pending negotiations, I defer a further and fuller communication on the subject of the relations of this country and Spain.

THE EXPATRIATION LAWS.

I have again to call the attention of Congress to the unsatisfactory condition of the existing laws with reference to expatriation and the election of nationality. Formerly, amid conflicting opinions and decisions, it was difficult to exactly determine how far the doctrine of perpetual allegiance was applicable to citizens of the United States. Congress, by the act of July 27, 1868, asserted the abstract right of expatriation as a fundamental principle of this Government. Notwithstanding such assertion and the necessity of the frequent application of the principle, no legislation has been had defining what acts or formalities shall work expatriation, or when a citizen shall be deemed to have renounced or to have lost his citizenship. The importance of such definition is obvious. The representatives of the United States in foreign countries are continually called upon to lend their aid and the protection of the United States to persons, concerning the good faith or the reality of whose citizenship there is at least great question. In some cases the provisions of the treaties furnish some guide; on others, it seems left to the persons claiming the benefit of citizenship while living in a foreign country, contributing in no manner to the performance of the duties of a citizen of the United States, and without intention at any time to return and undertake those duties, to use the claims of citizenship of the United States simply as a shield from the performance of the obligations of a citizen elsewhere. The status of children born of American parents residing in a foreign country, of American women who have married aliens, of American citizens residing abroad, where such question is not regulated by treaty, are all sources of frequent difficulty and discussion. Legislation on these and similar questions, and particularly defining when and under what circumstances expatriation can be accomplished or is to be presumed is especially needed.

FRAUDULENT NATURALIZATION.

In this connection I earnestly call the attention of Congress to the difficulties arising from fraudulent naturalization. The United States wisely, freely, and liberally offers its citizenship to all who may come in good faith to reside within its limits on their complying with certain prescribed reasonable and simple formalities and conditions. Among the highest duties of the Government is that to afford firm, efficient, and equal protection to all its citizens, whether native born or naturalized. Care should be taken that a right carrying with it such support from the Government should not be fraudulently obtained, and should be bestowed only upon full proof of a compliance with the law; and yet there are frequent instances of illegal and fraudulent naturalization and of the unauthorized use of certificates thus improperly obtained. In some cases the fraudulent character of the naturalization has appeared upon the face of the certificate itself; in others examination discloses that the holder had not complied with the law, and in others certificates have been obtained where the persons holding them not only were not entitled to be naturalized, but had not even been within the United States at the time of the pretended naturalization. Instances of each of these classes of fraud are discovered at our legations, where the certificates of naturalization are presented either for the purpose of obtaining passports or in demanding the protection of the legation. When the fraud is apparent on the face of such certificates, they are taken up by the representatives of the Government and forwarded to the Department of State. But even then the record of the court in which the fraudulent naturalization occurred remains and duplicate certificates are readily obtainable. Upon the presentation of these for the issue of passports or on demanding protection of the Government, the fraud sometimes escapes notice, and such certificates are not unfrequently used in transactions of business to the deception and injury of innocent parties. Without placing any additional obstacles in the way of the obtainment of citizenship by the worthy and well-intentioned foreigner who comes in good faith to cast his lot with ours, I earnestly recommend further legislation to punish fraudulent naturalization and to secure the ready cancellation of the record of every naturalization made in fraud.

TREATIES CONCLUDED.

Since my last annual message the exchange has been made of the ratification of treaties of extradition with Belgium, Ecuador, Peru, and Salvador; also of a treaty of commerce and navigation with Peru, and one of commerce and consular privileges with Salvador, all of which have been duly proclaimed, as has also a declaration with Russian with reference to trade-marks.

NATIONAL REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury, which by law is made directly to Congress, and forms no part of this Message, will show the receipts and expenditures of the Government for the last fiscal year, the amount received from each source of revenue, and the amount paid out for each of the departments of Government. It will be observed from this report that the amount of receipts over expenditures has been but $2,344,882 30 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, and that the current fiscal year the estimated receipts over expenditures will not much exceed $9,000,000. In view of the large national debt existing, and the obligation to add one per cent. per annum to the sinking fund, a sum amounting now to over $34,000,000 per annum, I submit whether the revenues should not be increased or expenditures diminished to reach this amount of surplus. Not to provide for the sinking fund is a partial failure to comply with the contracts and obligations of the Government. At the last session of Congress a very considerable reduction was made in rates of taxation and in the number of articles submitted to taxation—the question may well be asked whether or not in some instances unwisely. In connection with this subject, too, I venture the opinion that the means of collecting the revenues, especially from imports, have been embarrassed by legislation as to make it questionable whether or not large amounts are not lost by failure to collect, to the direct loss of the Treasury, and to the prejudice of the interests of honest importers and taxpayers.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

The Secretary of the Treasury in his report favors legislation looking to an early return to specie payments, thus supporting views previously expressed in thi Mscssage. He also recommends economy in appropriations, calls attention to the loss of revenue from repealing the tax on tea and coffee without benefit to the consumer, recommends an increase of ten cents a gallon on whisky, and further, that no modification be made in the Banking and Currency bill passed at the last session of Congress, unless modification should become necessary by reason of the adoption of measures for returning to specie payments. In these recommendations I cordially join.

SUGGESTIONS FOR ALTERING THE TARIFF.

I would suggest to Congress the propriety of readjusting the tariff so as to increase the revenue, and at the same time decrease the number of articles upon which duties are levied. Those articles which enter into our manufactures and are not produced at home, it seems to me, should be entered free. Those articles of manufacture which we produce a constituent part of, but do not produce the whole, and those which we do not produce, should enter free also. I will instance fine wool, dyes, &c. These articles must be imported to form a part of the manufacture of the higher grades of woolen goods. Chemicals used as dyes, compounded in medicines and used in various ways in manufactures, come under this class. The introduction free of duty of such wools as we do not produce should stimulate the manufacture of goods requiring the use of those we do produce, and therefore would be a benefit to home production. There are many articles entering into home manufactures which we do not produce ourselves, the tariff upon which increases the cost of producing the manufactured article. All corrections in this regard are in the direction of bringing labor and capital in harmony with each other, and of supplying one of the elements of property so much needed.

THE MILITARY SERVICE.

The report of the Secretary of War, herewith attached, and forming a part of this Message, gives all the information concerning the operations, wants, and necessities of the army, and contains many suggestions and recommendations which I commend to your special attention.

OUR HARD-WORKED ARMY OFFICERS.

There is no class of Government employes who are harder worked than the army officers and men, none who perform their tasks more cheerfully and efficiently and under circumstances of greater privations and hardships. Legislation is desirable to render more efficient this branch of the public service.

SPECIAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

All the recommendations of the Secretary of War I regard as judicious, and I especially commend to your attention the following: The consolidation of the Government arsenals; the restoration of mileage to officers traveling under orders; the exemption of money received from the sale of subsistence stores from being covered into the Treasury; the use of appropriations for the purchase of subsistence stores without waiting for the beginning of the fiscal year for which the appropriation is made; for additional appropriations for the collection of torpedo material; for increased appropriation for the manufacture of arms; for relieving the various States from indebtedness for arms charged to them during the rebellion; for dropping officers from the rolls of the army without trial for drawing pay more than once for the same period; for the discouragement of the plan to pay soldiers by checks, and for the establishment of a professorship of rhetoric and English literature at West Point. The reasons for these recommendations are obvious and are set forth sufficiently in the report attached. I also recommend that the status of the staff corps of the army be fixed, where this has not already been done, so that promotions may be made and vacancies filled as they occur in each grade, when reduced below the number to be fixed by law. The necessity for such legislation is specially felt now in the Pay Department. The number of officers in that department is below the number adequate to the performance of the duties required of them by law.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

The efficiency of the navy has been largely increased during the last year. Under the impulse of the foreign complications, which threatened us at the commencement of the last session of Congress, most of our efficient wooden ships were put in condition for immediate service, and the repairs of our iron-clad fleet were pushed with the utmost vigor. The result is that most of these are now in an effective state, and need only be manned and put in commission to go at once into service. Some of the new sloops authorized by Congress are already in commission, and most of the remainder are launched and wait only the completion of their machinery to enable them to take their places as part of our effective force. Two iron torpedo ships have been completed during the last year, and four of our large double-turreted iron-clads are now undergoing repairs. When these are finished everything that is useful of our navy as now authorized will be in condition for service, and with the advance in the science of torpedo warfare the American Navy, comparatively small as it is, will be found at any time powerful for the purposes of a peaceful nation.

SERVICES OF THE NAVY TO SCIENCE AND COMMERCE.

Much has also been accomplished during the year in aid of science, and to increase the sum of general knowledge, and further the interest of commerce and civilization; extensive and much-needed soundings have been made for hydrographic purposes, and to fix the proper routes of ocean telegraphy; further surveys of the great isthmus have been undertaken and completed, and two vessels of the navy are now employed in conjunction with those of England, France, Germany, and Russia, in observations connected with the transit of Venus, so useful and interesting to the scientific world.

IMPORTANCE OF PROPERLY MAINTAINING THE NAVY.

The estimates for this branch of the public service do not differ materially from those of last year, those for the general support of the service being somewhat less, and those for permanent improvements at the various stations rather larger than the corresponding estimate made a year ago. The regular maintenance and a steady increase in the efficiency of this most important arm in proportion to the growth of our maritime intercourse and interests is recommended to the attention of Congress. The use of the navy in time of peace might be further utilized by a direct authorization of the employment of naval vessels in explorations and surveys of the supposed navigable waters of other nationalities on this continent, especially the tributaries of the two great rivers of South America, the Orinoco and the Amazon; nothing prevents under existing laws such exploration, except that expenditures must be made in such expeditions beyond those usually provided for in the appropriations. The field designated is unquestionably one of interest, and one capable of large development of commercial interests, advantageous to the peoples reached and to those who may establish relations with them.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The education of the people entitled to the exercise of the right of franchise I regard essential to general prosperity everywhere, and especially so in republics where both education or previous condition does not enter into account in giving suffrage. Next to the public school the post office is the great agent of education over our vast territory. The rapidity with which new sections are being settled, thus increasing the carrying of mails in a more rapid ratio than the increase of receipts, is not alarming.

THE REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

The report of the Postmaster General herewith attached shows that there was an increase of revenue in his department in 1873 over the previous year of $1,074,411 and an increase of the cost of carrying the mails and paying employes of $3,041,468 91.

The report of the Postmaster General gives interesting statistics of his department, and compares them with the corresponding statistics of a year ago, showing a growth in every branch of the department. A postal convention has been concluded with New South Wales, an exchange of postal cards established with Switzerland, and the negotiations pending for several years past with France have terminated in a convention with that country which went into effect last August.

An International Postal Congress was convened at Berne, Switzerland, in September last, at which the United States was represented by an officer of the Post Office Department of much experience and of qualification for the position. A convention for the establishment of an international postal union was agreed upon and signed by the delegates of the countries represented, subject to the approval of the proper authorities of those countries. I respectfully direct your attention to the report of the Postmaster General, and to his suggestions in regard to an equitable adjustment of the question of compensation to railroads for carrying the mails.

CONDITION OF AFFAIRS IN THE SOUTHERN STATES.

Your attention will be drawn to the unsettled condition of affairs in some of the Southern States.

LOUISIANA.

On the 14th of September last the Governor of Louisiana called upon me, as provided by the Constitution and laws of the United States, to aid in suppressing domestic violence in that State. This call was made in view of a proclamation issued on that day by D. B. Penn, claiming that he was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1872, and calling upon the militia of the State to arm, assemble and drive from power the usurpers, as he designated the officers of the State Government. On the next day I issued my proclamation commanding the insurgents to disperse within five days from the date thereof, and subsequently learned that on that day they had taken forcible possession of the State-house. Troops were taken by me to support the existing and recognized State Government, but before the expiration of the five days the insurrectionary movement was practically abandoned, and the officers of the State Government, with some minor exceptions, resumed their powers and duties. Considering that the present State Administration of Louisiana has been the only Government in that State for nearly two years, that it has been tacitly acknowledged and acquiesced in as such by Congress, and more than once expressly recognized by me, I regarded it as my clear duty, when legally called upon for that purpose, to prevent its overthrow by an armed mob under pretense of fraud and irregularity in the election of 1872. I have heretofore called the attention of Congress to this subject, stating that on account of the frauds and forgeries committed at said election, and because it appears that the returns thereof were never legally canvassed, it was impossible to tell thereby who were chosen. But from the best sources of information at my command, I have always believed the present State officers received a majority of the legal votes actually cast at that election. I repeat what I said in my special Message of Feb. 13, 1873, that in the event of no action by Congress I must continue to recognize the Government heretofore recognized by me.

INDICATIONS OF VIOLENCE.

I regret to say that with the preparations for the late election decided indications appeared in some localities in the Southern States of a determination, by acts of violence and intimidation, to deprive citizens of the freedom of the ballot because of their political opinions. Bands of men, masked and armed, made their appearance; White Leagues and other societies were formed; large quantities of arms and ammunition were imported and distributed to these organizations; military drills with menacing demonstrations were held; and with all these, murders enough were committed to spread terror among those whose political action was to be suppressed, if possible, by these intolerant and criminal proceedings. In some places colored laborers were compelled to vote according to the wishes of their employers, under threats of discharge if they acted otherwise; and there were many instances in which, when these threats were disregarded, they were remorselessly executed by those who made them.

PURPOSE OF THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT.

I understand that the fifteenth amendment to the Constitution was made to prevent this state of things, and the act of May 31, 1870, with amendments, was passed to enforce its provisions, the object of this being to guarantee to all citizens the right to vote and to protect them in the free enjoyment of that right.

THE ENFORCEMENT OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY.

Enjoined by the Constitution to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and convinced by undoubted evidence that violations of said act had been committed, and that a widespread and flagrant disregard of it was contemplated, the proper officers were instructed to prosecute the offenders, and troops were stationed at convenient points to aid these officers, if necessary, in the performance of their official duties. Complaints are made of this interference by Federal authority, but if said amendment and act do not provide for such interference under the circumstances as above stated, then they are without meaning, force, or effect, and the whole scheme of colored enfranchisement is worse than mockery and little better than a crime. Possibly Congress may find it due to truth and justice to ascertain by means of a committee whether the alleged wrongs to colored citizens for political purposes are real or the reports thereof were manufactured for the occasion.

NUMBER OF TROOPS IN THE SOUTH AT THE TIME OF ELECTION.

The whole number of troops in the States of Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Maryland, and Virginia, at the time of the election was 4,082. This embraces the garrisons of all the forts from the Delaware to the Gulf of Mexico.

ARKANSAS.

Another trouble has arisen in Arkansas. Article 13 of the Constitution of that State, (which was adopted in 1868, and upon the approval of which by Congress the State was restored to representation as one of the States of the Union,) provides in effect that before any amendments proposed to this Constitution shall become a part thereof they shall be passed by two successive Assemblies, and then be submitted to and ratified by a majority of the electors of the State, voting thereon. On the 11th of May, 1874, the Governor convened an extra session of the General Assembly of the State, which, on the 18th of the same month, passed an act providing for a convention to frame a new Constitution. Pursuant to this act, and at an election held on the 30th of June, 1874, the convention was approved, and delegates were chosen thereto on the 14th of last July, and formed a new Constitution, the schedule of which provided for the election of an entire new set of State officers, in a manner contrary to the then existing Election laws of the State. On the 13th of October, 1874, this Constitution, as therein provided, was submitted to the people for their approval or rejection, and according to the election returns was approved by a large majority of those qualified to vote thereon; and at the same election persons were chosen to fill all the State, county, and township offices. The Governor elected in 1872 for the term of four years turned over his office to the Governor chosen under the new Constitution, whereupon the Lieutenant Governor, also elected in 1872 for a term of four years, claiming to act as Governor, and alleging that said proceedings, by which the new Constitution was made and a new set of officers elected, were unconstitutional, illegal, and void, called upon me, as provided in section 4, article 4 of the Constitution, to protect the State against domestic violence. As Congress is now investigating the political affairs of Arkansas, I have declined to interfere.

DISTASTEFUL CHARACTER OF EXECUTIVE INTERFERENCE.

The whole subject of Executive interference with the affairs of a State is repugnant to public opinion, to the feelings of those who, from their official capacity, must be used in such interposition, and to him or those who must direct. Unless most clearly on the side of law such interference becomes a crime with the law to support it. It is condemned without a hearing. I desire, therefore, that all necessity for Executive direction in local affairs may become unnecessary and obsolete,

NECESSITY OF CALMLY CONSIDERING THE CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF THESE TROUBLES.

I invite the attention, not of Congress, but of the people of the United States, to the causes and effects of these unhappy questions. Is there not a disposition on one side to magnify wrongs and outrages, and on the other side to belittle them or justify them? If public opinion could be directed to a correct survey of what is, and to rebuking, wrong and aiding the proper authorities in punishing it, a better state of feeling would be inculcated, and the sooner we would have that peace which would leave the States free indeed to regulate their own domestic affairs.

IS THE SOUTH WHOLLY BLAMELESS FOR ITS WRONGS?

I believe on the part of our citizens of the Southern States, the better part of them, there is a disposition to be law-abiding and to do no violence either to individuals or to the laws existing; but do they do right in ignoring the existence of violence and bloodshed in resistance of constituted authority? I sympathize with their prostrate condition, and would do all in my power to relieve them, acknowledging that in some instances they have had most trying Governments to live under, and very oppressive ones in the way of taxation for nominal improvements not giving benefits equal to the hardships imposed; but can they proclaim themselves entirely irresponsible for this condition? They cannot. Violence has been rampant in some localities, and has either been justified or denied by those who could have prevented it. The theory is even raised that there is to be no further interference on the part of the General Government to protect citizens within a State where the State authorities fail to give protection. This is a great mistake. While I remain Executive of all the laws of Congress, and the provisions of the Constitution, including the recent amendments added thereto, will be enforced with rigor, but with regret that they should have added one jot or tittle to the Executive duties or powers.

A PLEA FOR TRUTH AND FAIRNESS.

Let there be fairness in the discussion of the Southern questions, and the advocates of both or all political parties give honest, truthful reports of occurrences, condemning the wrong and upholding the right, and soon all will be well. Under existing conditions the negro votes the Republican ticket because he knows his friends are of that party. Many a good citizen votes the opposite, not because he agrees with the great principles of State which separate parties, but because generally he is opposed to negro rule. This is a most delusive cry. Treat the negro as a citizen and voter, as he is and must remain, and soon parties will be divided not on the color line but on principle. Then we shall have no complaint of sectional interference.

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

The report of the Attorney General contains valuable recommendations relating to the administration of justice in the courts of the United States, to which I invite your attention.

AN INCREASE OF THE JUDICIAL DISTRICTS RECOMMENDED.

I respectfully suggest to Congress the propriety of increasing the number of judicial districts in the United States to eleven, the present number being nine, and the creation of two additional judgeships. The territory to be traversed by the Circuit Judges is so great, and the business of the courts so steadily increasing, that it is growing more and more impossible for them to keep up with the business requiring their attention. Whether this would involve the necessity of adding two more Justices of the Supreme Court to the present number I submit to the judgment of Congress.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

The attention of Congress is invited to the report of the Secretary of the Interior, and to the legislation asked for by him. The domestic interests of the people are more intimately connected with this Department than with either of the other Departments of the Government. Its duties have been added to, from time to time, until they have become so onerous that without the most perfect system and order it will be impossible for any Secretary of the Interior to keep trace of all official transactions having his sanction and done in his name, and for which he is held personally responsible.

THE INDIAN PEACE POLICY.

The policy adopted for the management of Indian affairs, known as the peace policy, has been adhered to with most beneficial results. It is confidently hoped that a few years more will relieve our frontiers from danger of Indian depredations. I commend the recommendation of the Secretary for the extension of the Homestead laws to the Indians, and for some sort of Territorial Government for the Indian Territory. A great majority of the Indians occupying this Territory are believed to be incapable of maintaining their rights against the more civilized and enlightened white men. Any Territorial form of Government given them, therefore, should protect them in their homes and property for a period of at least twenty years, and before its final adoption should be ratified by a majority of those affected.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior, herewith attached, gives much interesting statistical information which I abstain from giving an abstract of, but refer you to the report itself.

THE PENSION OATH.

The act of Congress providing the oath which pensioners must subscribe before drawing their pensions cuts off from this bounty a few survivors of the war of 1812 residing in the Southern States. I recommend the restoration of this bounty to all such. The number of persons whose names would thus be restored to the list of pensioners is not large. They are all old persons who could have taken no part in the rebellion, and the services for which they were awarded pensions were in defense of the whole country.

THE CENTENNIAL.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture, herewith presented, contains suggestions of some interest to the general public, and refers to the approaching Centennial, and the part his department is ready to take in it. I feel that the nation at large is interested in having this exposition a success, and commend to Congress such action as will secure a greater interest in it. Already many foreign nations have signified their intention to be represented at it, and it may be expected that every civilized nation will be represented.

THE CIVIL SERVICE RULES—THE DIRECT SUPPORT OF CONGRESS NEEDED.

The rules adopted to improve the civil service of the Government have been adhered to as closely as has been practicable with the opposition with which they meet. The effect, I believe, has been beneficial on the whole, and has tended to the elevation of the service; but it is impracticable to maintain them without the direct and positive support of Congress. Generally the support which this reform receives is from those who give it their support only to find fault when the rules are apparently departed from. Removals from office, without preferring charges against the parties removed, are frequently cited as departures from the rules adopted, and the retention of those against whom charges are made by irresponsible persons and without good grounds is also often condemned as a violation of them.

IF CONGRESS DOES NOT TAKE ACTION THE PRESIDENT WILL ABANDON THE SYSTEM.

Under these circumstances, therefore, I announce that if Congress adjourns without positive legislation on "civil service reform," I will regard such action as a disapproval of the system, and will abandon it. Except so far as to require examination for certain appointees, to determine their fitness, competitive examinations will be abandoned. The gentlemen who have given their services, without compensation, as members of the board to devise rules and regulations for the government of the civil service of the country, have shown much zeal and earnestness in their work, and to them, as well as to myself, it will be a source of mortification if it is to be thrown away. But I repeat that it is impossible to carry this system to a successful issue without general approval and assistance, and positive laws to support it.

INDUSTRIAL PROBLEMS.

I have stated that three elements of prosperity to the nation, capital, labor skilled and unskilled, and products of the soil, still remain with us. To direct the employment of these is a problem deserving the most serious attention of Congress. If employment can be given to all labor offering itself prosperity necessarily follows.

A SOUND CURRENCY NECESSARY.

I have expressed the opinion, and repeat it, that the first requisite is the substitution of a sound currency in place of one of a fluctuating value. This secured, there are many interests that might be fostered to the great profit of both labor and capital. How to induce capital to employ labor is the question.

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION.

The subject of cheap transportation has occupied the attention of Congress. Much new light on this question will, without doubt, be given by the committee appointed by the last Congress to investigate and report upon this subject.

SHIP-BUILDING AID SUGGESTED FOR AMERICAN VESSELS.

A revival of ship-building, and particularly of iron steam-ship building, is of vast importance to our national prosperity. The United States is now paying over $100,000,000 per annum for freights and passages on foreign ships, to be carried abroad and expended in the employment and support of other peoples beyond a fair percentage of what should go to foreign vessels, estimating on the tonnage and travel of each respectively. It is to be regretted that this disparity in the carrying trade exists, and to correct it I would be willing to see a great departure from the usual course of the Government in supporting what might usually be termed private enterprise. I would not suggest as a remedy direct subsidy to American steam-ship lines, but I would suggest the direct offer of ample compensation for carrying the mails between Atlantic seaboard cities and the Continent on American owned and American built steamers, and would extend this liberality to vessels carrying the mails to South American States and to Central America and Mexico, and would pursue the same policy from our Pacific seaports to foreign seaports on the Pacific. It might be demanded that vessels built for this service should come up to a standard fixed by legislation, in tonnage, speed, and all other qualities looking to the possibility of the Government requiring them at some time for war purposes. The right also of taking possession of them in such emergency should be guarded. I offer these suggestions, believing them worthy of consideration in all seriousness, affecting all sections and all interests alike. If anything better can be done to direct the country into a course of general prosperity, no one will be more ready than I to second the plan.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Norwarded herewith will be found the report of the Commissioners appointed under an act of Congress, approved June 20, 1874, to wind up the affairs of the District Government.

CONDITION OF ITS FINANCES.

It will be seen from the report that the net debt of the District of Columbia, less securities on hand and available, is bonded debt issued prior to July 1, 1874, $8,8?3,940 43; 3.65 bonds, act of Congress, June 20, 1874, $2,088,163 73; certificates of the Board of Audit, $4,770,538 45; total, $15,742,667 61. Less special improvement assessments chargeable to private property, in excess of any demand against such assessments, $1,614,051 37. Less Chesapeake and Ohio Canal bonds, $75,000, and Washington and Alexandria Railroad bonds, $59,000, in the hands of the sinking fund, $1,748,054 37—leaving the actual debt, less said assets, $13,-994,613 24. In addition to this there are claims preferred against the Government of the District amounting in the estimated aggregate reported by the Board of Audit to $3,147,787 48, of which the greater part will probably be rejected. This sum can with no more propriety be included in the debt account of the District Government, than can the thousands of claims against the General Government be included as a portion of the national debt, but the aggregate sum thus stated, includes something more than the funded debt chargeable exclusively to the District of Columbia. The act of Congress of June 28, 1874, contemplates an apportionment between the United States Government and the District of Columbia, in respect of the payment of the principal and interest of the 3.65 bonds. Therefore, in computing with precision the bonded debt of the District, the aggregate sums above stated as respects 3.65 bonds, now issued, the outstanding certificates of the Board of Audit, and the unadjusted claims pending before the board, should be reduced to the extent of the amount to be apportioned to the United States Government. In the matter indicated in the act of Congress of June 20, 1874, I especially invite your attention to the recommendations of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund relative to the ambiguity of the act of June 20, 1874, the interest on the District bonds, and the consolidation of the indebtedness of the District. I feel much indebted to the gentlemen who consented to leave their private affairs and come from a distance to attend to the business of this District, and for the able and satisfactory manner in which it has been conducted. I am sure their services will be equally appreciated by the entire country.

SANITARY CONDITION SATISFACTORY.

It will be seen from the accompanying full report of the Board of

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

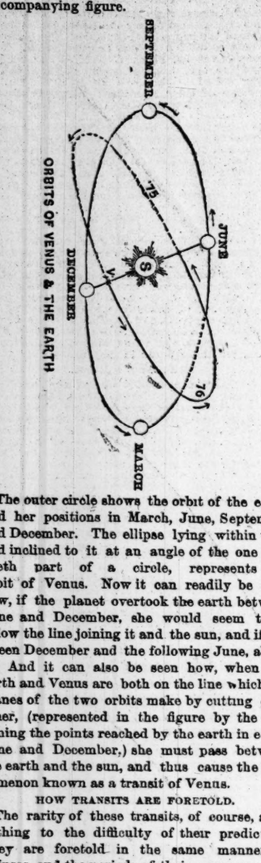
IMPORTANCE OF TO-NIGHT'S EVENT.

WHY TRANSITS ARE SO RARE, AND HOW THEY ARE FORETOLD—HOW THE TRANSIT OF 1874 WILL BE UTILIZED—THE PREPARATIONS BY DIFFERENT NATIONS—WHAT THE ANCIENTS THOUGHT.

Seven minutes before 9 o'clock to-night, an observer stationed anywhere upon the earth where it is then day, will, by looking under suitable conditions, see a small black spot creep on the upper left-hand edge of the sun's disk, and continue, for rather more than four hours, to describe a diagonal line across it, and then disappear. The phenomenon cannot be seen at all with the naked eye, and even when seen with suitable instruments, it will, except for the knowledge that two celestial bodies are concerned, appear scarcely more imposing than the march of a house-fly across a dinner-plate. Yet millions of dollars have been spent in preparations to observe this apparently insignificant event with an exactness never before applied by human art, and to-night hundreds of skilled astronomers, scattered over about seventy stations, widely scattered over the surface of the globe, will turn their instruments toward the sun, inspired with a full conviction that the results of this observation of the transit of Venus will more than repay their large expenditure of labor and money. What adequate return do they expect? A true man of science will hardly discuss the question. To him knowledge is its own reward, and it is enough that he is about to learn something he does not know. But fortunately a more practical answer can be given as well as demanded. It is expected that after the transit, and by its aid, a perfect map of the solar system can be made. It is true that a very well-appearing map can already be laid down on paper. Close observation of the revolutions of the planets, and the application of geometrical principles, have enabled astronomers to map out the orbit of every planet. And, furthermore, according to what is known as Kepler's third law, they can map out these orbits in their exact relations to each other, for the law gives the relative distances of two planets from the sun, when we know the relation between their periods of revolution. This law, the discovery of which is one of the wonders of human achievement, and which cost Kepler half a lifetime of laborious study, is very simple in its application, and is very important in connection with this transit. It may be thus stated: Square the number of years taken by a planet to go around the sun; the result will give a first number. Then find a second number the cube of which is equal to the first number. This second number will express the planet's distance from the sun, that of the earth being called one. To take an example: Jupiter, as astronomers know by observation, takes about eleven years to go around the sun. By squaring eleven we get 121 for a first number. Then by trial we find that the cube of 5 is almost equal to 121. Five, then, is the second number, and it will express Jupiter's distance from the sun when that of the earth is called one. Hence we are right in saying that Jupiter is about five times as far from the sun as the earth is, and if the exact number of years had been used the exact distance would have been got. And this method may manifestly be applied to all the other planets. Thus it is that astronomers are able to draw a celestial map, in which the actual elliptic orbits would be expressed so exactly that no microscope could detect an error. But if this is so what more can be wanted? The unsupplied want is a fatal defect—the map has no scale. And so long as a scale is wanting it is manifestly impossible to say how much actual distance is measured by an inch upon the map. And the case is even worse than this, for the celestial map, instead of having no scale, has an erroneous one. But if now, since the relations of the map are so accurate, the actual number of miles between any two points can be obtained, the astronomers will then plainly know what an inch on the map stands for in actual distance, and thus will be supplied the lacking scale. Thus it is seen why the coming transit is so important. It is expected not only to decide the distance from the earth to the sun, but also, and by means of this distance, to furnish the means for calculating all the dimensions of the solar system. This is the main benefit which is expected to be derived from the transit. But there are many incidental benefits also which are not entirely beneath notice. The science of optics will, it is thought, be benefitted in no small degree, and the accuracy of the science of navigation will be greatly increased. For not only will the longitude of many specific stations be determined with, humanly speaking, perfect exactness, but the knowledge of the exact distances of the heavenly bodies will enable the marine tables to be corrected, and will enable vessels to sail by "dead reckoning," that is without any direct observation of the heavenly bodies, with a confidence and accuracy at present merely hoped for. Again, it cannot be doubted but that some among the host of scientific men whom the various expeditions will scatter to the ends of the known world, will make valuable meteorological and magnetic observations; and geologists, botanists, and naturalists are specially appointed to accompany some of the English expeditions. There then can be but little doubt that science in general, as well as astronomy in particular, will greatly profit by the transit of Venus. But why, it may reasonably be asked, is the transit of Venus—a celestial phenomenon so rare that it only occurs twice in each century—singled out to supply this information? It is because Venus is the planet nearest to the earth, and because the difficulty of measurement is so much increased by the greater distances of the others as to be nearly insuperable.

WHY TRANSITS ARE SO RARE.

It takes the earth 365 days to complete its journey around the sun, while Venus completes her revolution in 224. Since, then, her time of revolution is so much shorter than the earth's, she must overtake it sometimes, and this she does in a period of 584 days, or about nineteen months. But how is it that she can overtake the earth once every nineteen months for 120 years, or some seventy-five times in all, and yet never once come between the earth and the sun in all that century? The explanation is very simple. If Venus and the earth traveled about the sun on the same level, that is, if their orbits were in the same plane, just so surely as Venus overtook the earth she would pass between it and the sun, and there would be a transit of Venus every nineteen months instead of two in every century. But they do not travel about the sun on the same level. The ellipse in which Venus travels is so inclined to the earth's path that one-half lies above it and one-half below it. A representation of this may easily be made by cutting a piece of board into an ellipse and then plunging it for half its length into the centre of a circular basin of water. The circumference of the basin would represent the earth's orbit, and the level surface of the water would represent its plane. And as the rim of the elliptical board represents the path of Venus, it is clear that that portion of her path above the surface of the water is above the plane of the earth's orbit, that that portion below the surface of the water is below the plane of the earth's orbit. Now it needs no demonstration to show that Venus may be at any point of her orbit when she overtakes the earth. But whether she is above the earth or below it, it is equally impossible that she should come between it and the sun. That she can do only when she is in the plane of the earth's orbit, and in the experiment the mimic Venus will be in that plane only when she reaches that point on the elliptical board which is just at the level of the water. That there are only two such points in her orbit, and that she must overtake the earth when she is exactly at, or very near them, in order to pass between the earth and the sun, are the reasons that transits of Venus are so rare. This illustration will help to explain the accompanying figure.



The outer circle shows the orbit of the earth, and her positions in March, June, September, and December. The ellipse lying within this, and inclined to it at an angle of the one hundredth part of a circle, represents the orbit of Venus. Now it can readily be seen how, if the planet overtook the earth between June and December, she would seem to be below the line joining it and the sun, and if between December and the following June, above it. And it can also be seen how, when the earth and Venus are both on the line which the planes of the two orbits make by cutting each other, (represented in the figure by the line joining the points reached by the earth in every June and December,) she must pass between the earth and the sun, and thus cause the phenomenon known as a transit of Venus.

HOW TRANSITS ARE FORETOLD.

The rarity of these transits, of course, adds nothing to the difficulty of their prediction. They are foretold in the same manner as eclipses, and the periods of their occurrence depend upon the relative times of revolution of the earth and Venus, combined with the inclination of the planes of the two orbits to each other. The figure just referred to will help to an understanding of this also. The earth, we will suppose, is at the point in its orbit marked "December," and Venus is at the point in its orbit marked V. In other words, the transit of 1874 is just occurring. In one year the earth will return to exactly the same point in its orbit. But Venus completes its revolution in 224 days. Therefore, when the earth in 365 days has returned to the point marked December, Venus will have not only reached V, but will have passed as much beyond it as to the point marked '75, which is her position in that year. In another 365 days the earth will again reach the point marked December. Venus, too, has in the same period again reached V, but as before, she has passed beyond it, and is now at the point marked '76, in which year, as also in '75, there can be no transit, for reasons already explained. And this goes on for eight years, a period of time which is so nearly equal to thirteen of Venus' years, meaning thereby her time of revolution about the sun, that in 1882 both Venus and the earth are almost in the same positions they occupied in 1874, and there is consequently another transit. If they were in exactly the same positions, of course, there would be a transit every eight years. But the departure from perfect equality between eight revolutions of the earth and thirteen of Venus, although not sufficient to prevent a transit in a single period of eight years, will be doubled in sixteen years, and then no transit is possible. And each year thereafter this departure is increased, until finally it is equal to a whole revolution of Venus. This occurs after 235 years, and then there is another transit. Thus it will be seen that transits occur at the December station of the earth at intervals of eight and 235 years. Eight years from this December there will be another transit, and there was one in December, 1639—235 years ago. But it will not be 235 years from 1882 before there is another transit, for it will be remembered that transits may also occur at the point in the earth's orbit marked June. During the 235 years from December, 1882, on June 7, 2,004, there will be a transit, and another eight years after it. Then it will be 235 years from that last date before there can be another June transit, and in the mean time the period for a December transit will have again arrived. Thus is explained, it is hoped, with an approach to clearness, how transits are foretold, and also why it is that they occur in pairs at the mystic period of eight years.

Supposing, now, that by these methods it is known that a transit is about to occur. How is it to be utilized in ascertaining the sun's distance from the earth? There are several methods in use among astronomers for this purpose, but before describing them it will be necessary to thoroughly explain

WHAT PARALLAX IS.

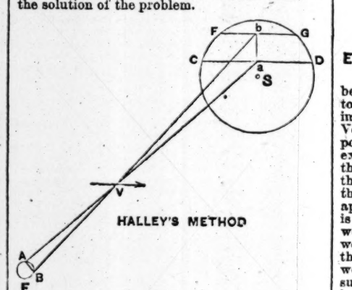
This is about the only scientific term with which the reader need be troubled, and it cannot be got rid of, because it is the key to the whole matter. Once having mastered the mystery of the parallax the rest follows easily, and, therefore, upon the threshold of this sketch, an attempt will be made to enable the reader to get, as he very easily may, a clear idea of what an astronomer means by the parallax of a heavenly body. Going to our Webster, we find that parallax is, in astronomy, "the change of place in a heavenly body in consequence of being viewed from different points." To an astronomer, who knows beforehand what parallax is, the definition is perfectly clear, but to one in search of information the explanation is nearly unintelligible. An illustration may help the matter. Let a man assume such a position with reference to some fixed object that a line drawn from him through it will point exactly north. Now, let him change his position to the westward. A line drawn from him to the observed object now will no longer point north but in some other direction, say north-east. This change in the direction of the object is the effect of parallax. It is an apparent change of place in consequence of being viewed from different points. A single other illustration will suffice. Let any small object, as a lead pencil, be held in front of the eyes, and at a convenient distance from them for seeing it. Now close the left eye and note upon the opposite wall some fixed point covered by the pencil. Then, closing the right eye, and opening the left, also note upon the wall some fixed point covered by the pencil when thus looked at. All this time the pencil has remained unmoved, and yet it will be found to have shifted its apparent position on the wall to a degree which will astonish any one who has never tried the simple experiment. And this change of direction in consequence of being viewed from different points is the parallax of the pencil. The experiment may seem a rude one, and yet observe how exactly it represents the astronomical phenomenon now being discussed. For the head, the earth may be substituted; for the eyes, two observers situated as far apart on the earth's surface as they can get; for the wall, the sun's face; for the pencil, Venus, and for the parallax of the pencil, the parallax of Venus. As the observer's eyes in the experiment with the pencil are on a horizontal line, of course the change in the position of the pencil occurs on a horizontal line also. But it is very easy to suppose that the eyes are in a vertical position, as if the observer were lying upon his side, and in that case the change of position would also be in a vertical line, which is the same as saying that parallax may be a change of vertical as well as of horizontal position. To give a single example: In the figure, illustrating De Lisle's method, an observer at A would see C in the direction A C, and an observer at B would see C in the direction B C. The difference of these directions is the angle A C B, which is the parallax of C, as seen from the points A B.

THE RELATION OF PARALLAX TO DISTANCE.

Besides keeping to an understanding of what parallax is, the experiment with the pencil will also help us to understand how the ascertainment of a body's parallax gives its distance. Thus let the experiment be tried several times, and at different distances from the wall. It will be found that the change of direction is due to the distance between the eyes, but that this being constant, the amount of the pencil's displacement on the wall is due only to its distance from it, and that, consequently, as the distance varies the amount of displacement varies also. Now we are prepared to say how the distance of the wall can be calculated without going to it. For as the apparent motion of the pencil on the wall is so connected with its distance from it as that the one depends upon the other, tables may clearly be prepared from which, when one is known, the other may be found. Such are the trigonometrical tables in common use, which will always give the distance exactly when the change of direction or of place, or, in other words, the parallax, is known exactly. At the risk of repetition it is again stated that finding an object's distance and finding its parallax are convertible terms. When the latter is large it is easily got, and implies a small distance. But when minute it is found with difficulty, and implies great distance. The fixed stars, for instance, are so far from the earth that they have no appreciable parallax. And it may be added that the sun's horizontal parallax, as the astronomers call its change of direction as seen by two observers separated by half the diameter of the earth, is almost immeasurably small. It is less, whatever it is, than an angle of 9".5, or than that angle which a human hair would fill at a distance of five feet from the eye. It was an error of one-thirtieth of this last—an error, less, that is, than a literal hair's breadth seen fifty yards off—which caused the mistake of 3,000,000 miles now known to have been made in measuring the sun's distance in 1769.

HALLEY'S METHOD.

Having premised thus much, we are now in a condition to consider how the transit of Venus may be made available for determining the distance of the sun from the earth. It has been seen that the parallax of the sun cannot be used for this purpose because of its immeasurable smallness when directly obtained from the earth. Dr. Halley's method enables the astronomer to employ, instead of the parallax of the sun, the parallax of Venus when nearest the earth, and consequently when her parallax is greatest. In fact, the distance from the earth to Venus is only about one-quarter as much as that to the sun, and therefore her parallax is almost four times as large as his. Let it be assumed, then, that a transit of Venus across the sun's disk is actually under inspection from the earth. The adjoining figure will represent all the different relations which are necessary to the solution of the problem.



HALLEY'S METHOD

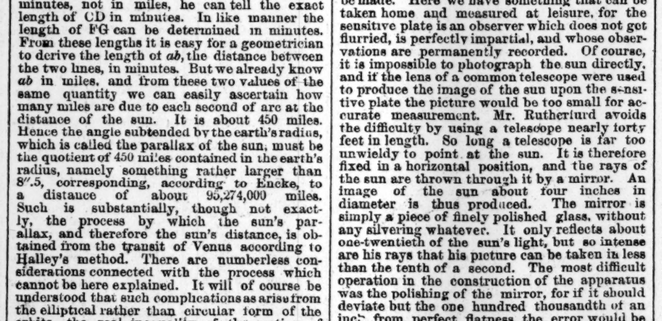
Let S represent the sun, E, the earth, and V, Venus, supposed to be moving in her orbit at V between the sun and the earth. Let A and B represent the positions of two observers watching the phenomenon from the earth, A being a point near the North Pole, and B a point near the South Pole. It is evident that to these two observers the transit will appear to take place on different lines. To the observer at A, Venus will seem to cross the sun's disk on the line CD, while to the observer at B she would seem to cross it on the line FG. And *ab*, the distance between the lines CD and FG, measures the angle a V b, which is equal to the angle AVB, and the angle AVB is the parallax of Venus as seen from the stations A B on the earth. The problem before us is to see how the line *ab* will help us to the distance of the earth from the sun. Now, according to the principles of the geometrical relations of triangles we have the proportion a V: A V:: *ab*: AB, which is equivalent to saying that the line *ab* must be just as much longer than the line AB as the line a V is longer than the line A V. But we know from Kepler's third rule that A V must be taken 1 and 3-7 times to equal a V, and we may know, by measurement, exactly how many miles, feet and inches apart are the stations A and B on the earth's surface. Consequently, we know that if A and B is taken 1 and 3-7 times, the product will equal *ab*. The exact length in miles of *ab* on the sun's surface has, therefore, been obtained, and the first step in the solution of the problem has been taken. It only remains to find out if possible what part *ab* is of the entire diameter of the sun, and then we should know this diameter in miles. We do know the angular diameter of the sun; that is, we know the angle made by two lines drawn from the eye to the extremities of the sun's diameter is equal to 32'. The radius of the sun is therefore 16'. If the observer, then, at A had timed with great precision the ingress of the planet at C and its egress at D, he would know the time occupied by Venus in traversing the line C D. Then, knowing the rate at which the earth and Venus move in their orbits in minutes, not in miles, he can tell the exact length of CD in minutes. In like manner the length of FG can be determined in minutes. From these lengths it is easy for a geometrician to derive the length of *ab*, the distance between the two lines, in minutes. But we already know *ab* in miles, and from these two values of the same quantity we can easily ascertain how many miles are due to each second of arc at the distance of the sun. It is about 450 miles. Hence the angle subtended by the earth's radius, which is called the parallax of the sun, must be the quotient of 450 miles contained in the earth's radius, namely something rather larger than 8".5, corresponding, according to Encke, to a distance of about 95,274,000 miles. Such is substantially, though not exactly, the process by which the sun's parallax, and therefore the sun's distance, is obtained from the transit of Venus according to Halley's method. There are numberless considerations connected with the process which cannot be here explained. It will of course be understood that such complications as arise from the elliptical rather than circular form of the orbits, the real inequality of the motion of Venus and the earth in their orbits, the fact of the earth's being constantly turning and changing the observers' positions whether they will or no, and many other similar details, can only be mentioned here by way of suggesting how excessively intricate are the actual computations which the astronomer must make. It was said that the distance of the earth was "about" 95,274,000 miles. It will of course be understood that this exactness of expression arises from the fact that the sun's parallax is known to be only "about" 8".5. After the transit, the astronomers hope to be able to say exactly what the parallax is, and then they can compute the sun's distance exactly. At present they only know that 95,274,000 of miles is almost three per cent. too large to express the sun's true distance from the earth.

Although the explanation of Halley's method has been made as simple as possible, it is quite likely that the necessity of close reference to the figure will perplex those not recently accustomed to geometrical discussions. A demonstration may be given which is substantially the same as the above, and which yet requires no figure. It is clear that in the case of two observers at different stations, Venus will appear to describe two paths in her transit across the sun. But when one of these stations is in the far north and the other in the far south, one of these paths, which are both chords of the sun, will be further from the sun's centre, and consequently shorter, than the other. The duration of the transit, so far as this effect is concerned, is directly proportioned to the length of the chord traced out by Venus. Thus from observation we obtain the lengths of these chords; and by geometry we can deduce the least distance between the centres of the sun and Venus at each of the two stations, and hence we can determine the sun's parallax. In leaving this method it may be said that its chief excellence is its great accuracy, which consists in this, that in one second of time Venus moves over only about 0".02, and if even an error of a whole second is made in noting the time of ingress or of egress, the sun's parallax is measured with an error of no more than .02 of a second of arc. But it has its disadvantages also, among which are the necessity of observing the whole transit, and these have led the English astronomers to use this year

DE LISLE'S METHOD,

Which is far simpler than Halley's. It takes advantage of the fact that the ingress of Venus upon the sun will take place later when seen from some parts of the earth than from others, and it uses the orbit of Venus as a vast protractor for measuring small angles. It will be best to precede the detailed exposition of the method by an illustration. If we suppose a person looking at a remote object—say a lighted window—from a distance of half a mile or rather more, the distance between his eyes bears nearly the same relation to that of the light from them that the distance between any two stations practically usable on the earth does to that of the sun. Accordingly, the difficulty of obtaining the sun's parallax without moving from off the earth is quite comparable to that the observer would experience in trying to measure the distance of the light without moving from his place. To prevent the problem being quite incapable of solution, he may be granted all the help the astronomer will derive from the transit of Venus. Her motion may be represented by a car moving at a uniform rate, on a circular track, between the light and the observer. If the car pass across the light from left to right, (as Venus crosses the sun,) it will, of course, cut off the observer's view of the left side of the window from the left eye first, and if the motion of the car is slow enough, we may suppose him to note the exact time from that instant before the sight of the same point by the right eye is intercepted. Now, if he knows from previous watching how long it takes the car to make a whole circuit of 360°, he can tell from his watch just what fraction of 360° it went over in passing, or in its shadow passing, from one eye to the other; and this certain fraction of 360° is the measure of the angle which the distance between his eyes would appear to subtend as seen from the light. But that is the parallax of the light, and it gives him its distance at once when the distance between the eyes—the base line—is known. Now to apply this on a grander scale. We know that the earth revolves about the sun in 365 days, and Venus in 224. But it will be simpler to take no account of the earth's revolution, but to suppose our globe to stand still with reference to Venus, in which case the revolution of Venus relatively to the earth, the synodical revolution, in astronomical language, is 584 days. Now, as Venus passes through 360° in 584 days she, of course, passes through 1-584 of 360° in one day, and by dividing that quotient by the number of minutes in a day we can get the length of her path in one minute, and it is found to be about 1".54 of arc. That is the rate at which the shadow of Venus (could she throw one so far) would pass over the earth as seen from the sun. It is needless to say that the path of the shadow of Venus across the earth cannot be observed, for the light of the sun will blot it out, but the instant at which an observer has his view of the edge of the sun interrupted by Venus is clearly the instant at which this imperceptible shadow will reach his eye.

DE L'ISLE'S METHOD



Now, in the adjoining cut we are supposed to be lifted above the sun, earth, and Venus, and to look down upon what occurs as from an immense balloon. S represents the sun, V Venus, and E the earth, upon which A is supposed to be the position of an observer upon the extreme left or eastern side of the globe, and B the position of an observer at the centre of the globe. C represents that point upon the rim of the sun's disk at which Venus appears to begin her transit, and the angle at C is the angle which the earth's semi-diameter would fill to an eye at the sun, or, in other words, it is the solar parallax, for it represents the difference in the directions in which the sun would be seen by the two observers. Now, suppose the observer at A has his view of C interrupted by V coming into line with it at exactly 9 o'clock. The observer at B can still see C clearly, but in say 5¾ minutes Venus has progressed to V', and then B has his view of C interrupted by the interposition of the planet. But since, as has been seen, Venus passes over 1".54 in each minute, in 5¾ minutes she has passed over 8".85, and this angle represents the difference of directions in which the sun will be seen by the observers at A and B. And the astronomer, on referring to his solar tables, will find that such a difference of direction could only be caused by an object nearly 92,000,000 miles away. It is hoped that the transit will show how much the angle 8".85 must be changed in value to insure its absolute correctness, and then the distance can also be obtained from the solar tables with equal exactness. It only remains to be added that in practice the observers need not be placed at the extreme edge and centre of the earth, since the effect of distances greater or less than half a diameter can be easily allowed for. But this is only one of the many complicating circumstances which simplicity demanded should be omitted.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC AND HELIOMETRIC METHODS.

Two methods remain to be described, and the four, with their variations, will include all the methods, ancient and modern, by which the transit of Venus is utilized in obtaining the sun's distance. The photographic method appeals largely to our national pride, for it was originally proposed by Mr. L. M. Rutherfurd, of this City, and to it the attention of the American observers has been principally devoted. Some idea has been given of the almost inconceivable delicacy of the measurements which are to be made, and the difficulty is a thousand-fold enhanced by the necessity of making them instantly, at the penalty of losing, perhaps, the only chance in a century. But suppose a large number of instantaneous photographs of the sun with Venus on its face are taken. It is easy to see that by combining the photographs which represent the different positions of Venus during the transit, a perfectly exact map of the apparent pathway may be made. Here we have something that can be taken home and measured at leisure, for the sensitive plate is an observer which does not get flurried, is perfectly impartial, and whose observations are permanently recorded. Of course, it is impossible to photograph the sun directly, and if the lens of a common telescope were used to produce the image of the sun upon the sensitive plate the picture would be too small for accurate measurement. Mr. Rutherfurd avoids the difficulty by using a telescope nearly forty feet in length. So long a telescope is far too unwieldy to point at the sun. It is therefore fixed in a horizontal position, and the rays of the sun are thrown through it by a mirror. An image of the sun about four inches in diameter is thus produced. The mirror is simply a piece of finely polished glass, without any silvering whatever. It only reflects about one-twentieth of the sun's light, but so intense are his rays that his picture can be taken in less than the tenth of a second. The most difficult operation in the construction of the apparatus was the polishing of the mirror, for if it should deviate but the one hundred thousandth of an inch from perfect flatness the error would be fatal. The scale of the picture is determined by actually measuring the distance between the object glass and the photograph plate.

The exact measurement of the distances of Venus' edges from the opposite edges of the sun is another way of obtaining the distance between the centres of the sun and planets. The heliometric method consists in measuring these distances directly with the heliometer, an instrument which cannot be had in this country at all, and which English astronomers describe as being both complex in construction and difficult to use. Further description of it may therefore be spared, except to say that it furnishes two images of the sun, and gives the means for measuring them exactly according to scale. This instrument will be used by the Germans, Russians, and Lord Lindsay, an English nobleman who fits out a private expedition, and not at all by the Americans, English, or French.

Having now completed a review of the methods by which Venus' transit will be utilized, it will be suitable to examine the

DIFFICULTIES TO BE ENCOUNTERED.

by the observers. It may be premised that an astonishing degree of accuracy was long ago obtained. The angle which represents the error Kepler found in the sun's parallax as then known would correspond to that filled by the page of an ordinary octavo volume at the distance of half a mile from the eye, and the error now admitted as probable by Prof. Newcomb, a great American authority on such matters, would correspond to that filled by the edge of the same leaf at the same distance. The whole angle of the parallax which is to be measured only equals 8" or 9", and its value is already known to within one-tenth of a second. What is desired is to make the measurement exact to within a hundredth of a second of arc. An example will give an idea of the excessive smallness of these angles. A second of arc is the angle filled by a silver half dollar at the distance of nearly four miles. A tenth of a second of arc is the angle subtended by the same coin at the distance of forty miles, and the error in the parallax is probably not more than a tenth of a second. A hundredth of a second, which is the degree of accuracy aimed at, is equal only to the angle filled by a human hair at the distance of a mile. But there are other obstacles to be encountered besides the excessive accuracy of the necessary measurements. Observations upon the sun are attended with peculiar difficulties. Its surface, instead of being a perfect globe, which would present to the earth the appearance of a disk with a sharply-defined outline, is composed of gases in a fearful state of agitation and combustion. The edges of the disk are ragged and irregular, and it is therefore difficult to tell the precise instant when the first contact of Venus with the sun takes place. Moreover, it is impossible to see Venus until after the contact has actually begun, because her dark side is turned toward the earth. These are difficulties attending the "external contacts," as are called those phases of the transit when Venus is just touching the sun, but is yet wholly outside of it, the "internal contacts" being those phases when Venus is just wholly inside the sun's ring, and is about to separate her edges from his. And, like the external contacts a peculiar difficulty, known as the "black drop," is found to attend the determination of the precise moment of internal contact. The black drop is an optical illusion by which, when it would seem that Venus ought to be clear of the sun's edge, she yet appears to cling to it and to pull it out of shape, something as a drop of ink distorts the point of a pen in falling from it. It can readily be seen how such an appearance as this would disconcert those who were expecting, in 1769, that the edge of Venus and the edge of the sun would appear as sharply defined as the edges of two circular coins brought in contact with each other. But the difficulties attending the observations of both internal and external contacts are now provided for. For determining the exact instant of the latter, the spectroscope will be used, according to a plan which Prof. Young conceived during his observation of the eclipse of 1869. It is well known that if the spectroscope be turned upon the body of the sun a spectrum is furnished which is crossed by black lines. But if it be turned upon the gaseous envelope which surrounds the sun a spectrum of bright lines is seen, which have all been located and named with great exactness. If now the spectroscope is so arranged that no light can reach it except from that portion of the gaseous envelope which Venus must cross the instant before she enters upon the true disk of the sun, she must in her passage obstruct that light and constantly blot out the bright lines of the spectrum. The moment of their total extinguishment must be the moment of external contact. The phenomenon of the black drop will also cause less difficulty in estimating the true time of internal contact now than formerly, partly because it is as expected, and partly because its nature is better understood. It was formerly thought to be due to the atmosphere of Venus, but it is now known to be caused by irradiation, in the same way that a very thin platinum wire, when heated to an intense degree by electricity, seems to be about the thickness of a pencil to those who are regarding it from a distance. In order to accustom the observers to this distortion of Venus' disk by the black drop, an artificial planet was made to move by clock-work over an artificial representation of a portion of the sun's disk. The apparatus was set up at a distance of half a mile from the observers in order to give the effect due to atmospheric undulations. This instrument has both thrown a great deal of light on the question of the black drop and has also given the observers much preliminary practice in the observations they will have to make on the day of the transit. Many other difficulties which embarrassed the observers of the last transit will be obviated by the improvements of modern astronomy. Among them may be mentioned the following: The instruments will be of better quality, and will give much more clearly-defined images; the chronograph will help to measure time to hundredths of a second as easily and accurately as tenths could before be measured, and finally, not to speak of lesser improvements, the means for obtaining the exact longitude of the stations of the different observers are much improved, and in some cases will be almost perfect, owing to the use of the telegraph.

PREPARATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE.

Having thus outlined what the astronomers expect to see this evening, and how they will make use of it, with a view rather to clearness of apprehension by the reader than to any approach to scientific accuracy, it will be appropriate to give some idea of the preparations which have been made for the occasion by the various nations of the world. The English were the first to take action in the matter. As far back as 1857, Sir George Airy, Astronomer Royal, had sketched a general plan of operations, and in 1870 his instruments were in process of construction. In 1869, the Russians and Prussians took preliminary measures, and it was not until the Naval Appropriation bill of 1871 was passed that our own Government took any official notice of the transit. Then a commission was appointed, consisting of the Superintendent and two professors of the Naval Observatory, the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, and the President of the National Academy of Science, to make all necessary preparations, and an appropriation of $150,000 was made for this purpose, besides giving the services of naval vessels for the transportation of the observers and their stores and instruments to the places selected. The selection of the places of observation was a matter which called for the exercise of a high degree of judgment. They must be so geographically situated as to make it possible to see the transit; they must be chosen with a view to favorable atmospheric conditions; they must be on solid land, for the observers cannot work on shipboard. And as the recent correspondence of Tom Hood has shown, even when the places chosen satisfy all other conditions, it may be impossible to land observers at them, or to subsist them when once landed. All these matters were carefully weighed, and it was determined that of the eight parties which were to be sent from the United States, five should go to southern and three to northern stations. Suitable northern stations were easily found, for the transit will be visible over all of China, Japan, and Northern India, but in the southern hemisphere there was considerable difficulty in choosing stations, as the localities where the transit will be visible are mostly in mid-ocean. The following are the names of the principal American observers and their situation: Wladiwostok, Siberia—Prof. Hall, of the Naval Observatory, assisted by Mr. O. B. Wheeler, of the Lake Survey. Pekin, China—Prof. J. C. Watson, of Ann Arbor. Nagasaki—Prof. G. Davidson, assisted by Mr. O. H. Tittman. The following are the Southern stations: Campbelltown, Tasmania—Capt. Raymond, of the United States Engineers, assisted by Lieut. Tilman. This party sailed to make their proposed landing at Urquets on account of stormy weather, and the party were landed on Kerguelen's Island. Hobart Town, Tasmania—Prof. Harkness, of the Naval Observatory, assisted by Mr. L. Waldo, of Columbia College. Kerguelen's Island—Lieut. Commanders Ryan and Train, of the United States Navy. Bluff Harbor, New-Zealand—Prof. C. H. F. Peters, of Hamilton College, New-York, assisted by Lieut. Boss, of the United States Engineers. Chatham island—Mr. Edwin Smith, assisted by Mr. Scott, both of the Coast Survey. Halley's and the photographic methods will be chiefly used by the Americans. The English chiefs of observers and stations are as follows: Egypt, Capt. C. O. Browne, R. A.; Sandwich Islands, Honolulu, Capt. G. L. Tupman, R. M. A., and Hawaii, Prof. G. Forbes; Rodriguez, Lieut. C. B. Neate, R. N.; Christ Church, New-Zealand, Major H. Palmer, R. E.; Kerguelen's Island, Christmas Harbor, Rev. S. J. Perry, and Port Palliser, Lieut. C. Corbet, R. N. In addition to these, Lord Lindsay fits out a most completely-appointed private expedition to Mauritius, and it is possible that Mr. Proctor will make photographic observations at a station in Northern India. The method generally used by the English is De l' Isle's. Under the lead of M. Dumas the French will occupy stations at the following places, under the charge of the astronomers named in connection with them: Campbell Island, M. Bouquet De La Grye; St. Paul Island, M. Moucher; Pekin, M. Fleuriels; Yokohama, M. Janssen, and also stations at Tientsin, Saguo, Numea, and Nukahiva, in the Marquesas. The photographic and De l' Isle's method will be used by the French. The Germans, under the superintendence of Dr. Auwers, will use the heliometric method chiefly at the following stations: Chefoo, Kerguelen's Island, Auckland Islands, Mauritius, Ispahan, Aden, and perhaps a station in Japan. The Prussians will also use the heliometer at some twenty-seven Siberian stations, and the whole expedition is in the charge of M. Otto Struve. The Dutch send one expedition to the island of Bourbon, and the Italians send three, about which little is known, and which are equipped with spectroscopes. There being so many stations it is almost impossible that unpropitious clouds will prevent observations at all of them, and as the most amicable interchange of results may be counted upon, it is most likely that this problem will now be solved.

RESULTS OF PREVIOUS TRANSITS AND OTHER METHODS.

In this connection it will not be uninteresting to glance at what has been previously done in discovering the sun's distance. The ancients held the most absurd ideas upon the subject. Herodotus says the sun was thought to be five miles away, and to drift southward, each year, as if retreating from the northern winds. Aristarchus, who flourished about 270 B. C., deduced from measurements of the triangle formed by the sun, earth, and moon, when the latter was exactly half full, that the sun was twenty times more remote than the moon. Ptolemy, from some ancient observations of eclipses, concluded that the solar parallax was 3', corresponding to a distance of 1,200 semi-diameters of the earth, and this grossly erroneous measurement was accepted as true until the time of Kepler. His discovery of the relative distances of the planets first made possible the application of the transit of Venus to the solution of the problem, and by the aid of his Rudolphine tables he made the first prediction of a transit of Venus, but as it took place after the sun was below the horizon in Europe it was invisible there. After this the matter seems to have dropped from general attention. But Jeremiah Horrox, a young English curate, who had the taste and learning necessary to a successful pursuit of astronomy, suspected that a transit would occur in 1639, although none was foretold, and he acquainted his friend Crabtree, of Manchester, with what he thought upon the subject. These two young men were the only persons who saw the transit of 1639. Horrox prepared himself to observe it by so arranging a telescope as to throw an image of the sun (about six inches in diameter) upon a screen in a darkened room. His calculations indicated that the transit would occur on Nov. 24, (old style,) but he kept watch from the 23d, so as to prevent all disappointment. The 24th was Sunday, but although he knew he was watching for what no man then living could hope to see again, he left his telescope to perform his clerical duties. On his return he went instantly to his darkened room, and there, in his own words, "an opening in the clouds, which rendered the sun distinctly visible, seemed as if Divine Providence encouraged my aspirations, when, oh! most gratifying spectacle, the object of so many earnest wishes, I perceived a new spot of unusual magnitude and perfectly round, which had just entered upon the left limb of the sun." His observations were of great value in correcting the tables of Venus, but his estimate of the distance of the sun at 7,500 diameters of the earth, was necessarily very erroneous, as it was the work of a single observer, and no good result can be obtained, as has been shown, by less than two who are widely separated. But Halley was the first to see clearly what an unequaled opportunity for determining the sun's distance is afforded by a transit of Venus, and in a letter written in 1672, from St. Helena, whither he had been sent by Charles II. to make a catalogue of the stars of the southern hemisphere, he proposed the method which bears his name, but which he knew he could not live to apply. The importance of the transit was, however, impressed upon astronomers by him, and, as the long-expected 5th of June, 1761, approached expeditions were sent out to observe the transit by France, England, Denmark, Sweden, and Russia. But their observations were deprived of all correctness by the black drop, and when an error of one second was hardly expected there was an actual one of twenty or thirty. On returning home and computing their observations the English observers reported a parallax of 8".5, and the French of 10".5. These are the extremes of all the observations, and as the corresponding estimates of the sun's distance varied from 88,000,000 to 108,000,000 of miles, it will readily be seen that not much certainty had yet been obtained. But, undismayed, preparations were again made by the various European Governments to observe the transit of 1769. The commencement of this transit was visible in this country, and, under the auspices of the American Philosophical Society, parties of observers were stationed at Norristown, Philadelphia, and Cape Henlopen. The observations they made have the appearance of being very accurate, but they were also very discordant from the European observations. The observations of the several parties in 1769 agreed very well, and seemed to indicate a parallax of about 8".5, but half a century elapsed before the results were completely worked up. In 1824 Encke undertook the task, and the value of the solar parallax, as reported by him, was 8".5776, corresponding to the distance so familiar to all who were at school twenty years ago. This value was unquestioned for more than thirty years, but then an error was suspected from the unanimity of the values given by several other methods for calculating the sun's distance. One of them was the aberrations of the moon in its orbit, which Hansen, in 1854, showed could not be accounted for except by supposing that the sun was nearer to the moon than was supposed by about one-thirtieth of its entire distance. Another method was by measuring the velocity of light. Recent experiments made in France by Foucault and Carew have proved that light travels about 185,000 miles in a second, and we know that it consumes 498 seconds in coming to the earth from the sun. This gives a distance of 92,315,000 miles, and a solar parallax of 8".86. Almost the same result was reached in 1862, when the solar parallax was, with the aid of the planet Mars, found to be 8".85. From the general accordance of these and various other methods, it is almost a certainty that Encke was wrong, that the solar parallax lies between the limits of 8".82 and 8".86, and that the sun's distance is some where between 92,200,000 and 92,600,000 miles. This is all that can be said until the results of the transit of 1874 are thoroughly worked up. Individual parties may complete their computation sooner, but it is not probable that the result of any general comparison of observations can be made known much before the year 1876.

ENGLISH GOSSIP.

A RAILWAY WAR—ARCTIC EXPLORATION.

THE POLICY OF THE MIDLAND RAILROAD—THE NEW POLAR EXPEDITION—DR. KENEALY.

From Our Own Correspondent.

LONDON, Saturday, Nov. 21, 1875.

There is every prospect of a civil war among the English railway companies, and in any case the value of railway property is likely, for some time, to be much depressed in consequence of uncertainty as to the course which the companies will pursue. The Midland Directors have, by a threat of resignation if their policy was rejected, secured the assent of their shareholders to an assimilation of first and second class traffic at second-class fares, and it will be carried out at the beginning of the year. It is hoped that the cheap fares will increase the number of passengers, and, on the other hand, that a saving may be effected by packing passengers more closely, and using the old second-class carriages, with some inexpensive alterations, as first class. It is admitted that there is no serious intention of introducing Pullman cars, or any similar carriages, as part of the regular trains, and, practically, therefore, first-class accommodation will be lowered. The other companies which touch the Midland at various points have decided, it is believed, to adhere to three classes of carriages, but to reduce their first-class fares to the level of the Midland, and, further, to reduce second-class fares.

THE NATIONAL FINANCES.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 1, 1874.

SIR: The Secretary has the honor to submit herewith the annual report of the operations of the Department, the estimates of appropriations required for the service of the next fiscal year, and plans for improving the revenues and expenditures.

The report of the actual receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, and the estimates for the remaining three quarters, the estimates being based upon the assumption that the business of the country will be prosperous during the remainder of the year, and that the ordinary expenses will not exceed the appropriations, will show that the revenue for the year will be $372,763,947 59, and that the ordinary expenses will be $352,314,824 89, leaving a surplus revenue of $20,449,122 70, which will be applied to the reduction of the public debt.

The sum of $31,000,585 will be required under the law for that fund, and, therefore, unless the revenues shall increase beyond the estimates, or the appropriations shall be diminished, a deficiency will be reported at the close of the year.

ESTIMATES FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, 1876.

It is estimated that the receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, will be:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000 00
From internal revenue	170,000,000 00
From customs	180,000,000 00
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000 00
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000 00
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000 00
Total	$357,600,000 00

It is estimated that the ordinary expenditures for the same period will be:

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimates of receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1877, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	180,000,000
From customs	190,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$377,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1878, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	190,000,000
From customs	200,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$397,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	200,000,000
From customs	210,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$417,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	210,000,000
From customs	220,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$437,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1881, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	220,000,000
From customs	230,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$457,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	230,000,000
From customs	240,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$477,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	240,000,000
From customs	250,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$497,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1884, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	250,000,000
From customs	260,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$517,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1885, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	260,000,000
From customs	270,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$537,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1886, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	270,000,000
From customs	280,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$557,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1887, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	280,000,000
From customs	290,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$577,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	290,000,000
From customs	300,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$597,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	300,000,000
From customs	310,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$617,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1890, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	320,000,000
From customs	330,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$657,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	340,000,000
From customs	350,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$697,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	360,000,000
From customs	370,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$737,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1893, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	380,000,000
From customs	390,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$777,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	400,000,000
From customs	410,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$817,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	420,000,000
From customs	430,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$857,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	440,000,000
From customs	450,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$897,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	460,000,000
From customs	470,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$937,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	480,000,000
From customs	490,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$977,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1899, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	500,000,000
From customs	510,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,017,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	520,000,000
From customs	530,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,057,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	540,000,000
From customs	550,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,097,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	560,000,000
From customs	570,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,137,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	580,000,000
From customs	590,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,177,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	600,000,000
From customs	610,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,217,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	620,000,000
From customs	630,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,257,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	640,000,000
From customs	650,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,297,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	660,000,000
From customs	670,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,337,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	680,000,000
From customs	690,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,377,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	700,000,000
From customs	710,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,417,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	720,000,000
From customs	730,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,457,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	740,000,000
From customs	750,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,497,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000,000
For pensions	30,000,000
For military establishment, including river and harbor improvements and arsenals	35,000,000
For naval establishment, including vessels, machinery, and improvements at navy-yards	23,000,000
For miscellaneous civilized expenses, including public buildings, light-houses, coast survey, and miscellaneous items	38,000,000
For expenses under the Department of the Interior, not classed	4,000,000
For interest on the public debt	130,000,000
Total	$285,500,000

The estimated receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912, are as follows:

From sales of public lands	$1,000,000
From internal revenue	760,000,000
From customs	770,000,000
From fees—consular, letters patent, and lands	1,500,000
From fines, penalties, and forfeitures	600,000
From miscellaneous sources	4,500,000
Total	$1,537,600,000

For civil expenses	$17,000,000
For foreign intercourse	1,500,000
For Indians	7,000

FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

SENATE..... WASHINGTON, DEC. 7.

The Senate was called to order promptly at noon by Vice President Wilson.

Rev. Dr. Sunderland, the Chaplain, in his opening prayer, returned thanks to Divine Providence for the many blessings bestowed upon our nation, and said: "We acknowledge our chastisements, and pray we may be corrected through them. We beseech Thee to show Thy favor upon this people, and help the Government in its great responsibility; help the Congress of the United States. May the candle of the Lord light them through every difficulty.

Vice President WILSON then took the chair."

A QUORUM PRESENT.

Mr. ANTHONY, of Rhode Island, offered a resolution instructing the Secretary of the Senate to inform the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate had assembled, and the Senate was ready to proceed to business, which was agreed to.

THE HOUR OF MEETING.

Mr. ANTHONY also submitted an order providing that the hour of meeting of the Senate should be daily at 12 o'clock until otherwise ordered. Agreed to.

THE COMMITTEE TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. CONKLING, of New-York, offered a resolution providing for the appointment of two members of the Senate, to join a committee on the part of the House of Representatives, to wait upon the President of the United States, and inform him that a quorum of each House of Congress had assembled, and were ready to receive any communication he may desire to make. Agreed to.

The Chair appointed Messrs. Conkling, of New-York, and Thurman, of Ohio, as the committee on the part of the Senate.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT.

Mr. MORRILL, of Maine, from the Joint Select Committee, appointed at the last session to frame a government for the District of Columbia, submitted a written report, accompanied by a bill, for the organization of such Government. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The bill provides that a department shall be created in the Government of the United States, to be called the Department of the District of Columbia, and that it shall have a corporate capacity. It is to be headed by a board of three Regents, to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and to be removable by the President at any time for causes. The first board are to be appointed for terms of six, four, and two years, respectively. Thereafter the term of office will be six years. Their salaries will be $4,500 each per annum. They are to appoint, and to have power to remove for cause, subordinate boards or Superintendents of Health, Police, Excise, Street-cleaning, Public Buildings, and Fire Department, and also three members of the Board of Education, which shall contain three of the members elected by the voters of the District of Columbia, and be presided over by the United States Commissioner of Education, who shall be, ex officio, a member. The public works of the District are to be in charge of an army engineer, detailed by the President for three years, and the Board of District Public Buildings will be headed by the United States Superintendent of Public Buildings. The powers and duties of all these subordinate officers, and those, also, of the regents, are minutely specified, defined, and limited, and the same jealous principle of rigid responsibility runs throughout the bill, which is very voluminous, consisting of eighty printed pages, divided into fifteen chapters. The power to make, alter, or abrogate local ordinances is confided exclusively to the Board of Regents, and no officers are to be elected by the people except three members of the Board of Education, as above stated. The bill fixes two per cent. as the rate of taxation, which should be levied on the assessed value of personal property owned by individuals or corporations in the District. The valuation, for the purpose of taxation, is to be made by three assessors appointed by the Board of Regents, and is to be that just valuation which would be arrived at by an equitable set between debtor and creditor—all taxes to be payable to the United States Collector of Internal Revenue, and to be paid by him into the United States Treasury. All other revenue or moneys of the District are to be collected and deposited in the United States Treasury in the same way. All vouchers and bills of expenses, of every description are to be audited in the United States Treasury, and all warrants for the payments of moneys on account of the District shall be subject to the Second Controller of the United States Treasury. The bill provides explicitly that no expenditure or liability shall be incurred by or for the District of Columbia that has not been appropriated for by Congress, and no payments for the District shall be made from the Treasury except in conformity with the appropriations of Congress. The bill finally provides for a revision and codification of all laws of the United States which relate especially to this District.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM OFFICERS OF THE SENATE.

The Chair laid before the Senate a letter from the Secretary of the Senate giving a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures for the last fiscal year, which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Also a communication from the Secretary and Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, giving a list of the Government property in their custody. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

SENATORS ELECT.

The Chair also laid before the Senate the certificate of election of George F. Edmunds, United States Senator from the State of Vermont, and the certificate of election of Hon. William W. Eaton, United States Senator from the State of Connecticut, for the term commencing March 4, 1875. Read and placed on file.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

The following bills were introduced and ordered to be printed and lie on the table till the appointment of the standing committees of the Senate:

REVISION OF THE CUSTOMS LAWS.

By Mr. SHERMAN, of Ohio—A bill to provide for the revision of the laws for the collection of Customs duties, and to provide for a commission of seven persons, to be constituted as follows: One member of the Senate, to be designated by the President of the Senate; two members elect of the next House of Representatives, to be designated by the Speaker of the present House, and two officers in the Customs service, and two citizens familiar with Customs law, to be appointed by the President. The commission is to terminate on the first Monday of December, 1875. It is to be the means whereby the bill to Congress, through the Secretary of the Treasury, a revision of all the Customs laws, together with such facts as they can elicit by examination and inquiry pertaining to the trade, industry, commerce, and taxation of the country, with a view to making changes of rates and classification and modes of collecting duties in order to promote the public interests. The Commissioners are also to report as to the relations of foreign trade to domestic industry, and the mutual adjustment of the Customs and Excise systems of taxation, with a view to securing the requisite revenue with the least inconvenience to the development of the resources of the country, and also as to the manner in which the Customs officers perform their duties. In order to conduct this investigation the Commissioners are empowered to examine the books, papers, and accounts of any Customs officer and to administer oaths. The members of the commission are to be allowed their necessary traveling expenses, but are not to receive any compensation.

RELIEF OF SETTLERS IN GRASSHOPPER DISTRICTS.

By Mr. INGALLS, of Kansas, a bill for the relief of certain settlers on public lands in the State of Kansas. It provides that Homestead and Preemption settlers shall be allowed a year's absence from their lands ravaged by grasshoppers, without loss of their rights.

By Mr. HITCHCOCK, of Nebraska, a bill appropriating $100,000 for the purchase of food to be issued to starving sufferers from the ravages of grasshoppers on the Western frontiers. The bill also directs the issue of disused army clothing to relieve the extreme wants of those destitute sufferers.

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

By Mr. PATTERSON, of South Carolina, a bill to increase the efficiency of the Medical Department of the United States Army.

CHINESE AND INDIANS.

By Mr. SARGENT, of California—A bill to protect persons of foreign birth against forcible restraint or involuntary servitude.

Also, a bill to enable Indians in certain cases to enter the public lands of the United States under the Homestead laws.

Also, a bill to correct the date of the commissions of certain officers of the army.

THE MERRIMAC PRIZE MONEY CLAIM.

Mr. SARGENT, of California, presented a memorial from Rear Admiral Worden, and those under his command who assisted in disabling the Confederate ram Merrimac, asking to be awarded prize-money, on the same principle as in the case of the officers and crew of the steamer Kearsarge, for the destruction of the Alabama. Laid on the table, to be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, when appointed.

The Senate then, at 12:15, on motion of Mr. ANTHONY, took a recess till 1 o'clock P. M.

THE ARKANSAS WESTERN JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

Mr. WRIGHT, of Iowa, upon the reassembling of the Senate, said last session he reported from the Judiciary Committee a bill to abolish the Western Judicial District of Arkansas. He therefore desired to give notice that on Wednesday next immediately after the expiration of the morning hour, he would ask the Senate to proceed with the consideration of said bill.

THE DISTURBANCES IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

Mr. INGALLS, of Kansas, submitted a resolution instructing the Committee on Indian Affairs to inquire into the recent disturbances in the Indian Territory, and to report to the Senate what measures are necessary for the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the preservation of law and order in that region, and whether the best interests of civilization do not demand the immediate establishment of Courts of the United States in said Territory, as provided by the treaties of 1866. Laid on the table until appointment of committees.

A PRIVATE CLAIM.

Mr. SARGENT, of California, presented the memorial of Mrs. Susan Roberts, of Monticello, Cal., praying compensation for lands taken and used by the Government of the United States. Laid on the table.

The Senate then, on motion of Mr. ANTHONY, took a recess [illegible]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The hour preceding the opening of the session was spent by the members as they entered the Hall in mutual greetings, friendly hand-shaking, and expressions of sympathy or of rejoicing over the results of the recent elections. It is doubtful whether there ever has been in the past history of the House a more demonstrative reassembling of its members. Representatives of the press, Representatives elect to the next Congress, lobby members, and others elbowed each other on the floor and participated in the general demonstrations. The spacious galleries were crowded with spectators, and the corridors of the Capitol were almost impassable.

OPENING OF THE SESSION.

Suddenly at noon there was a lull; the Speaker's hammer fell; the persons not entitled to the privileges of the floor withdrew, and the proceedings were formally opened with prayer by the Chaplain, Mr. Butler. He prayed for wisdom and Divine guidance, for the President and his Cabinet, the Senate and House, for the agricultural and commercial prosperity of the country, and for the purification and increased power of the great engine, the press.

CALLING THE ROLL.

Then the Clerk of the House, Mr. McPherson proceeded to call the list of members. The roll-call showed the presence of 238 of the 301 members constituting the House. Four new members, Messrs. Schell and Chittenden, of New-York, Carpenter, of South Carolina, and Finck, of Ohio, came forward and took the oath administered by the Speaker.

INFORMING THE SENATE AND THE PRESIDENT.

Resolutions were offered by Messrs. GARFIELD, of Ohio, and DAWES, of Massachusetts, to notify the Senate that the House is in session, and for the appointment of a joint committee to wait upon the President and inform him that Congress was prepared to receive any communication he desired to make. Messrs. Dawes, of Massachusetts, Hale, of New York, and Beck, of Kentucky, were appointed such committee on the part of the House.

THE "PRESS GAG LAW."

Mr. PHELPS, of New-Jersey, asked unanimous consent for the introduction and immediate consideration of a bill to repeal the law known as the "Press Gag Law" in the District of Columbia. He also asked that if, after the reading of the bill, any member objected to its consideration, he might be allowed three minutes in which to state its scope and object.

Mr. GEORGE F. HOAR, of Massachusetts, asked the Speaker whether it was the custom of the House to transact any business before the receipt of the President's Message.

Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts—Oh, yes.

The SPEAKER—The usage is in accordance with the drift of the gentleman's question—that is, not to transact business after a committee is appointed to wait on the President until the President has been heard from.

Mr. COX, of New-York—Let the bill be read, and perhaps there will be no objection.

The bill was read. It amends the second section of the act of the 23d of June, 1874, by providing that the provisions of the thirty-third section of the Judiciary act of 1789 shall apply in all cases, except in action of libel, in courts created by act of Congress in the District of Columbia.

Mr. HALE, of New-York—Is that bill before the House?

The SPEAKER—It requires unanimous consent.

Mr. HALE, of New-York—I object unless it be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

THE MESSAGE.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Garfield, of Ohio, at 12:35 P. M., took a recess of half an hour, which was further extended half an hour, and at the end of that time, 1:35 P. M., the President's Message was received and read to the House by Mr. McPherson, the Clerk.

The reading of the Message, which was listened to with remarkable attention, was concluded at 2:45. It was then, on motion of Mr. Dawes, ordered printed.

THE APPROPRIATION BILLS.

Mr. GARFIELD, of Ohio, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Appropriation bill, which was made the special order for Tuesday of next week.

Mr. HALE, of Maine, from the same committee, reported the Naval Appropriation bill, which was made the special order for Wednesday of next week.

Mr. WHEELER, of New-York, from the same committee, reported the Army Appropriation bill, which was made the special order for Thursday of next week.

Mr. LOUGHRIDGE, of Iowa, from the same committee, reported the Indian Appropriation bill, which was made the special order for Friday of next week.

Mr. STARKWEATHER, of Connecticut, from the same committee, reported the Fortification bill, which was made the special order for Tuesday, Dec. 22.

The amount appropriated by these several bills is as follows:

Legislative bill	$19,653,434
Navy	16,976,006
Army	27,701,500
Indian	4,361,507
Fortifications	850,000

THE NEWSPAPER POSTAGE LAW.

Mr. TYNER, of Indiana, from the same committee, reported a bill appropriating $30,000 for the purchase of scales for the use of the Post Office Department in executing the law requiring prepayment of postage on newspapers.

Mr. COX, of New-York, wanted to offer an amendment excepting from the operation of the law cases where subscriptions were taken prior to the 1st of January, 1875, and allowing postage in those cases to be paid at the place of destination.

Mr. TYNER declined to allow the amendment to be offered, or spoken to by Mr. Cox, who intimated that in the next House he would have more privileges.

Mr. TYNER replied that he (Tyner) would not be there to see. [Laughter.]

The bill was then passed.

Mr. COX thereupon introduced a bill to carry out the object indicated by him, and it was referred to the Post Office Committee.

PROPOSED REPEAL OF THE PRESS LAW.

Mr. PHELPS, of New-Jersey, gave notice that he would, next Monday, if he got the floor, move to suspend the rules and pass the bill which he sought to introduce and pass to-day—to repeal the Press-gag law.

The House then, at 3 o'clock, adjourned.

THE CITY MARSHALS AND THE SHERIFF'S OFFICERS.

Argument was had in Supreme Court, Chambers, yesterday, before Chief Justice Davis, on the question of the validity of the rule recently adopted by the General Term of the Marine Court, directing that all processes issuing from the Marine Court be served by the Sheriff's officers exclusively and not by the Marshals, as heretofore. The case came up on writs of habeas corpus and certiorari, sued out in the case of Marshal Joseph Phillips, who had been committed for contempt by Judge Spaulding for having executed a process of the court in violation of its general order providing for their execution by the Sheriff. The court was crowded with both Marshals and lawyers having business in the Marine Court, the latter very generally being in favor of the facilities afforded by the execution of processes by the Marshals. Messrs. Breen & Gearon and Ex-Judge Cardozo appeared to argue the case on behalf of the Marshal, and Mr. James Barry opposed. On behalf of the Marshals it was contended that, by the act of 1865, the authority of the Marshals to serve processes was distinctly conferred; that such authority had not been revoked, and could be revoked by statute only and not by any rule of court. On the other side, it was contended that the rule was binding upon the Marshals until revoked by the General Term of the Marine Court. Chief Justice Davis said it was clear the writ would have to be dismissed on grounds other than the validity of the rule. It appeared on the face of the commitment that it was for a contempt of court, and by a court of competent jurisdiction; also, that the judgment upon which the execution was issued, had been docketed, thus making it a judgment of the Court of Common Pleas; that such judgment must be executed as a judgment of the Court of Common Pleas, and in executing it the Sheriff was under the control of the Judges of the Marine Court; even if it were not so, the Marshal being committed for contempt, it became the duty of the court to discharge the writ and remand the prisoner.

THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS.

The report of the Department of Buildings for the week ending Saturday last, states that plans were submitted for twenty-two new buildings, of which eleven are to be tenements, and five first-class dwellings, to be erected as an estimated cost of $205,950. The Bureau of Violations and Unsafe Buildings reports that a survey was made of 472 buildings during the week, and that twenty-four were found to be in an unsafe condition. Thirty-seven cases of violation of the building law were sent to the attorney of the department for prosecution.

TEN YEARS IN THE PENITENTIARY.

Mary E. Howard, only fourteen years of age, the colored girl who, it will be remembered, confessed to an arson of peculiar atrocity, was placed at the bar of the Court of General Sessions, yesterday. The girl, it appears, lived with the family of [illegible] W. Barnes, No. 8 Jones street, and having been reprimanded on the 31st of November, sought revenge by making three determined attempts to set the house on fire. Her crime was fortunately discovered in time to prevent disastrous, and perhaps fatal results, the wife and family of Mr. Downs being imperilled by the savage act of the girl. The prisoner confessed her guilt, and Assistant District Attorney Nolan, after an examination of the papers prepared by Fire Marshal Sheldon, accepted a plea of arson in the second degree. Recorder Hackett sentenced the youthful criminal to ten years in the Penitentiary.

THE METUCHEN MURDER.

VERDICT OF THE CORONER'S JURY—MICHAEL SULLIVAN COMMITTED.

The inquest over the remains of Daniel Talmadge, who was murdered within ten yards of his door-step, in Metuchen, on Tuesday of last week, was concluded by Justice Lane, in Robin's Hall, Metuchen, last evening. The hall was crowded to suffocation by an excited audience. The prisoner, Michael Sullivan, manifested very little interest in the proceedings. He wore a new suit of clothes and a new pair of boots, said to have been purchased with money stolen from the body of his alleged victim. The taking of testimony commenced at about three o'clock. Two or three witnesses, who were first sworn, testified to having seen Sullivan at places in the vicinity of Metuchen, making an ostentatious display of a large roll of money, and Michael Dunninger testified that he saw Sullivan, whom he fully identified, in Metuchen, just before the time of the murder, making inquiries for Mr. Talmadge's place.

Charles Erhardt, of Newark, testified that after Sullivan had bought his new clothes in Newark, he went to witness's place and put them on. He left his old clothing with him, and said he was going to New-York. Witness observing that he had a large quantity of money with him advised him to leave part of it, and he counted off four ten dollar bills and gave them to witness.

The most important witness sworn during the whole examination was Detective McManus, of Newark, whose evidence bore hard against Sullivan. He testified to have found Sullivan's old clothing in Erhardt's place. On one of the sleeves of the coat are stains of blood. The coat was exhibited and the blood stains were shown. In Sullivan's valise he found among other papers a transfer check given by the Dime Savings Bank of Newark, in which Talmadge had an account. The detective took the check to the bank officials and they identified it as one that had been given to Daniel Talmadge. The case was given to the jurors at 6 o'clock. After a few minutes' deliberation they returned with a verdict certifying that "Daniel Talmadge came to his death from the effect of blows inflicted with a club in the hands of Michael Sullivan." In reply to the Coroner's question, he denied his guilt, and was fully committed for trial.

Threats of lynch law were frequently made by persons in the crowd, and one of the jurors had in his pocket a rope which he said he had carried for the emergency. The prisoner was, however, conducted to the jail at New-Brunswick in safety, and committed to a cell.

The case will go before the Grand Jury, which is to meet on the 15th inst.

THE NEW-YORK PRESBYTERY.

REV. DR. ERSKINE N. WHITE CALLED TO THE WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET CHURCH.

The monthly meeting of the New-York Presbytery was held yesterday in the school-room attached to the University Place Church. Rev. Dr. Newell, Moderator, presided. The business transacted was, for the most part, of a routine character. Rev. Erskine N. White received a call to the West Twenty-third Street Presbyterian Church at a salary of $5 000 per annum, and a committee was appointed to report as to the necessary arrangements for his installation. Rev. Dr. Prime, Chairman of the committee, reported the following arrangements: The installation services to take place on Sunday evening next at 7:30 o'clock at the West Twenty-third street Presbyterian Church. Rev. Dr. Crosby to preach the sermon, his alternate being Rev. Dr. Vincent; the charge to the people to be given by Rev. Dr. Alexander McLean, his alternate being Rev. Dr. Spalding; Rev. M. H. Hutton to charge the Pastor, his alternate being Rev. Dr. Murray. The principal matter which came before the Presbytery was an overture from the General Assembly. It was in the nature of a additional section to the thirteenth chapter of the Form of Government, its terms being as follows:

"If any particular church, by a vote of its members in full communion, shall prefer to elect ruling elders for a limited time in the exercise of their functions, this may be done; provided, the full time be not less than three years, and the session be made to consist of three classes, one of which only may be elected every year; and provided, more ordained elders shall not be divested of office when they are not re-elected, but shall be entitled to represent that particular church in the higher judicatories when appointed by the session of the presbytery."

This overture from the General Assembly was unanimously adopted.

Rev. Dr. Burchard read a minute, biographical in its character, concerning the late Rev. Dr. Dickenson. It was ordered by the presbytery that a copy be sent to the widow of the deceased. After the transaction of some routine business the meeting adjourned.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.

A petition to Congress is being actively circulated among the bondholders of the Northern Pacific Railroad, in which an appeal is made to Congress for the passage of an act to facilitate the collection of the large amount of subscriptions yet unpaid to the capital stock of that corporation. The petition sets forth that about eighteen and a half millions of dollars have been subscribed to the stock, of which not more than $300,000 has been paid. The list of subscribers shows that they are solvent and responsible parties, with the exception of Jay Cooke & Co. From the report to Congress, made in 1872, it appears that more than $2,000,000 were then subscribed by some prominent financiers in New-York and elsewhere. It may be remembered that a syndicate was created in 1873 for the marketing of these bonds, by the terms of which fifty per cent. of stock was given to each purchaser of bonds. The par value of the stock was $100 per share, and, to facilitate the collection of that amount against the holders of the several shares of stock, a bill has been prepared for submission to Congress as follows:

A BILL to provide for the enforcement of Subscriptions to the Stock of Corporations Organized under the Laws of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

1. Whenever any bill, note, bond, or coupon payable to bearer, issued by any corporation organized under the laws of the United States, except national banks, becomes due and remains unpaid after demand made on such corporation, the holder of such bill, note, or coupon may sue for and recover the amount or any portion of the amount of such debt from any subscriber to the stock or stockholder of the corporation whose shares remain unpaid to the par value thereof, and to the extent of the balance of subscription so remaining unpaid.

2. Such suit may be instituted in any Circuit Court of the United States subject to the provisions of the acts of Congress in respect to the residence and citizenship of parties to suits.

3. This act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

THE NEW-YORK FOUNDLING ASYLUM.

In a divorce suit pending between William F. Morgan and Caroline L. Morgan, a motion was made recently before Judge Robinson for an order to compel the Sisters of Charity in charge of the New-York Foundling Asylum to produce the books of the society for examination, with a view to establish the fact of an illegitimate child having been born of the defendant in the case and given in charge to the officers of the asylum. The application was resisted on the ground that the officers could not be compelled to produce the books. The motion was denied by Judge Robinson, and in his opinion he says: "As to the books of a corporation not a party to the action, no such power of inforcing an examination or production of them on a trial between other parties is afforded; nor can its agents or officers in their individual capacities be compelled to discover or produce the books of a corporation over which they have not the absolute control and right of disposition at their own will and discretion."

HIGHWAYMEN GROWING DESPERATE.

A case of more than ordinary daring in the highway robbery line was reported at Jefferson Market Police Court, yesterday, before Justice Flammer. On Sunday night George Corbelly, of No. 761 Washington street, was passing through Twelfth street toward his home, when, near the corner of Washington and Twelfth streets, he was suddenly set upon by two unknown men, who, after knocking him down, robbed him of his overcoat and $81. The cries of Corbelly attracted the attention of Officers O'Neil, Bush, and Flanagan, who gave chase to the highwaymen, and captured them with much trouble. In court, yesterday, they gave their names as John Ryan and Christopher Stahman. They were fully committed for trial in $1,000 bail each.

LADIES' FAIR AT REPUBLICAN HALL.

Yesterday evening an attractive fancy fair was opened at Republican Hall, Thirty-third street and Broadway, in aid of the Church of the Strangers. The stalls were tastefully arranged round the hall, which was decorated with evergreens. A large and attractive collection of fancy articles was exhibited. Among the ladies who presided at the tables were Mrs. Draper, Mrs. Randolph, Miss Robins, and Miss Lincoln, Mrs. Shearwood, the ladies of the Sunday-school, Miss Downing, Miss Jennings, Mrs. Henriques, Mrs. Roosevelt, and Miss Ensworth. The temperance table, presided over by Mrs. McMullen, was much patronized. The fair will be continued during the week.

THE BEECHER SCANDAL.

DECISION OF THE COURT OF APPEALS.

THE PLAINTIFF, TILTON, TO FURNISH A BILL OF PARTICULARS IF DEFENDANT'S COUNSEL ASK IT AND THE COURT GRANT THE REQUEST—PREPARATIONS FOR THE TRIAL—OPINION OF COUNSEL ON THE DECISION.

While busily engaged attending to applications of members of the press for seats, and making other arrangements for the trial of the suit of Theodore Tilton against Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, Judge Neilson received at the City Court Chambers yesterday the following telegram from Albany:

In the case of Tilton, respondent, vs. Beecher, Appellant, the order of the General Term of the City Court of Brooklyn was reversed by the Court of Appeals, and the case remitted to the court below, that its discretion upon the merits of the case may be exercised, without costs to either party as against the other

The learned Judge expressed no positive opinion with reference to the reversal of the order of the General Term, but when questioned said that the trial might possibly proceed to-day. The decision of the Court of Appeals does not take it off the calendar of the City Court.

The application by the plaintiff for a bill of particulars was, it will be remembered, made and argued before Judge Neilson, in the City Court. After hearing argument, he gave a decision denying the application, on the ground that the court had no power to grant the order asked for. In that opinion, Judge Neilson, while denying the application on the ground that the court had no power, was generally understood as intimating that if he had to decide the question on its merits he would refuse to grant the motion. It is consequently inferred by many lawyers that when the motion is renewed by counsel for the defendant it will be denied if made before Judge Neilson. In that event it would be useless to carry it to the General Term of the City Court for the reason that two of the three Judges (Neilson and Reynolds) would have already decided against it. As the granting of the order is a mere matter of discretion with the judges, and not a question of law, it cannot be appealed beyond the General Term of the City Court. It is probable, however, that Mr. Beecher's counsel will renew the motion for a bill of particulars before Judge McCue, who is now sitting in the Special Term of the City Court. Judge McCue has already, in his dissenting opinion when the appeal was taken to the General Term of the City Court, pronounced in favor of granting the application. Should the motion be renewed before him to-day, he will in all probability grant it. Such a decision would probably have the effect of putting off the trial to-day, because time might be asked for to furnish the bill of particulars, even if the plaintiff did not appeal to the General Term of the City Court.

These legal questions have not interfered with the preparations for the trial. The most commodious court-room in the County Court-house has been selected. Judge Neilson, who has been requested by his associates on the Bench of the City Court to preside during the trial of the Tilton-Beecher suit, was engaged yesterday with the aid of his chief clerk, Mr. Frank Malleson, in making preparations for the trial. Seats have been secured for over a hundred representatives of the press, and a room adjoining the court-room will be set apart and furnished with tables for their use. In this room also will be a small army of messenger boys, to carry "copy" to the different newspaper offices. The reporters' tables have been arranged in front, and at either end of the bench. The lawyers will have a separate table in the centre of the room, and the jury will occupy two rows of chairs at the right of the bench. As already announced, a panel of 1,000 jurors has been summoned, but it is not probable that more than 500 or 600 will attend. Should even that number present themselves, but very little room will be left for the general public. Policemen will be stationed at all the entrances to the court, and the general arrangements with regard to the admission and disposition in the room of the spectators will be under the charge of Officer John Malley. Judge Neilson has had numerous applications from ladies for seats in the court during the trial, but has refused all of them. No ladies will be permitted in court except such as are witnesses in the case, and even those only while giving their testimony.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE DECISION OF THE COURT OF APPEALS.

Special Dispatch to The New-York Times.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 7.—The following is the opinion given in the Court of Appeals, to-day, in the Beecher-Tilton case:

Theodore Tilton, Respondent, vs. Henry Ward Beecher, Appellant.—William M. Evarts for appellant; Roger A. Pryor for respondent; Rapallo, J.

The only question arising upon the present appeal which is reviewable in this court is whether or not the court below had power to grant the application of the defendant. If it possessed that power, and, under the mistaken impression that the power did not exist, denied the application on that ground, we have jurisdiction, and it is our duty to correct that error of law, and remit the case to the court below, with a direction that the motion be heard at Special Term, on the merits. (People vs. New-York Central Railroad Company, 29 New-York, 418; Brown vs. Brown, Court of Appeals, November, 1874; not reported.) This is the extent to which we interfere with orders made upon applications which do not rest upon strict legal right, but involve an exercise of discretion on the part of the courts below. It is not contended on the part of the appellant, and it would have been useless to contend, that the present application was founded upon legal right, or that it did not rest in the discretion of the court, nor that if the order appealed from was the result of fair exercise of that discretion we should be asked to review it. The ground of the appeal is that the Judge to whom the application was originally made at Special Term decided that he had no power to grant the relief sought; that he erroneously held that such relief could have been applied for under section 160 of the Code of Procedure, and could be obtained by no other proceeding, and that the defendant is entitled to have this error of law corrected and his application duly considered without being embarrassed by the legal difficulties supposed to stand in the way.

The first point for our consideration is whether in fact the case was disposed of in the court below on the question of power. If it was we are then called upon to decide whether or not the power existed, and if we find that it did, the defendant is entitled to the unembarrassed exercise of the discretion of the court in which his cause is pending upon the question whether or not justice demands that his application be granted.

The best evidence on the first point is the order of the court denying the defendant's motion. This order recites, among other things, that an order had before been granted requiring the plaintiff to show cause why he should not deliver to the defendant's attorney "a statement in writing of the particular times and places at which he expects or intends to prove that any acts of adultery or criminal intercourse took place between the defendant and the wife of the plaintiff." It denies the motion, on the ground that the court has no power to grant the same, and on other grounds stated. If the words, "and on the other grounds stated," had been omitted, it is very clear that the order would conclusively establish that the motion was denied solely on the ground of a supposed want of power to grant it. What qualification, then, was intended by the insertion of these words? We must suppose that the learned Judge referred to the grounds stated by himself in the opinion which he delivered contemporaneously with the order, and in which he set forth the reasons for his decision. Any other supposition would be unreasonable. This opinion presents with much force the reasons for holding that no power to grant it in the case exists. But in no part of it does he say that he has exercised his discretion as to the merits of the application, and determined that it should be denied upon the merits. The learned Judge, after commenting on the subject of bills of particulars in actions of tort, and showing that ordinarily they will not be granted in that class of action says: "But as I have said the question is as to the power of the court," and he proceeds to sustain his position that the court has no such power by arguing that the defendant could have obtained an adequate remedy by a motion under section 160 of the Code to make the complaint more definite and certain, and that that was the appropriate and sole remedy.

After a careful examination of the opinion we are satisfied that it does not in any substantial respect qualify the statement in the order that the motion was denied on the ground of want of power, and that the other grounds stated are that a different remedy is provided by the Code, and the party is confined to the one thus provided. This being the shape in which the case comes before us, we think it presents a question of law, and is therefore appealable to this court. It may not be absolutely essential to consider the question whether the particulars sought could have been obtained under section 160, by an application to make the complaint more definite and certain. If the power to order particulars existed before the enactment of that section it is not thereby abrogated. The most that could be said upon the subject is that, if section 160 affords an appropriate remedy the court might require the party to resort to that remedy. Both remedies might consistently exist together, but so much stress has been laid on the assertion that a remedy could have been obtained under section 160 that it is proper to ascertain whether or not such position is sound.

The argument at the section is: "When the allegations of a pleading are so indefinite or uncertain that the precise nature of the charge or defense is not apparent, the court may require the pleading to be made definite and certain." It will be observed that it is only where the precise nature of the charge is not apparent that an application can be made under this section. It enables a party to obtain a definite statement in the pleading of the nature of the charge intended to be made against him, but not of the particulars or circumstances of time or place. For this purpose a different proceeding is pointed out, viz., an application under section 158, which provides, among other things, that "the court may in all cases order a bill of particulars of the claims of either party to be furnished." It is evident that in the present case there was no occasion for an application under section 160 to make the complaint more definite and certain. There is no uncertainty or indefiniteness in respect to the nature of the charge made against the defendant. The difficulty under which he claims to be laboring is that the complaint does not point out the times or occasions when the alleged offenses are claimed to have been committed, but avers simply that they were committed on the 10th of October, 1868, and divers other days and times after that day and before the commencement of this action, thus covering a period of very nearly six years, the action having been commenced in August, 1874. He denies that the acts charged, were ever committed, but claims that for the purpose of preparing his defense it is necessary that he should be furnished with the particulars of the time and place in order that he may summon witnesses to rebut such evidence as may be brought against him, or explain the circumstances which may be proved, and upon which the plaintiff may rely to establish the charges.

In action upon money demand, consisting of various items, a bill of particulars of the dates and descriptions of the transactions out of which the indebtedness is claimed to have arisen is granted almost as a matter of course; and this proceeding is so common and familiar that when a bill of particulars is spoken of it is ordinarily understood as referring to particulars of that character. But it is an error to suppose that bills of particulars are confined to actions involving an account, or to actions for the recovery of money demands arising upon contract. A bill of particulars is appropriate in all descriptions of actions when the circumstances are such that justice demands that a party should be apprised of the matters for which he is to be put on trial with greater particularity than is required by the rule of pleading. They have been ordered in actions of libel. (Escape—Davis vs. Chapman; Anthon, 3 Edm. 317. Dowl & R., 774; trespass—Johnson vs. Birley, 5 Barn. and Ald., 540; trover—Humphrey vs. Cottleyon, 4 Cowan, 54, and in ejectment—Vischer vs. Conant, 4 Cowan, 396). Even in criminal cases the instances are numerous where they have by analogy to the practice in civil actions ordered bills of particulars, are frequent, viz.: On an indictment for being a common barrator, where a general form of pleading is allowed, (Hawkins P. C. B., C. 83, sec. 13; Goddard vs. Smith, 6 Mod. R., 261; Commonwealth vs. Davis, 11 Pick., 432.) Even an indictment for nuisance the prosecutor has been required to specify particulars of the separate acts of nuisance which he intended to prove, (Rex vs. Carwood 3d, and Ell. 815, Regina vs. Stower, 3 Jurist, 258, and in a prosecution for embezzlement, Rex vs. Hodgson, 3 Carr. and Payne, 300.) And in England there is nothing more common at the present day than to order particulars to be filed in an action for divorce, either on the ground of cruelty or adultery, and this is done on the application either of the defendant, or in cases where the wife is the defendant, of the person with whom she is alleged to have committed adultery, and who under the statutes 20 and 21, Vict., chapter 85, is joined with her as co-respondent for the purpose of being made a party to the cause. These cases show very clearly the opinion of the English courts, that a bill of particulars can be ordered in an action of crim. con., because section 33 of the statute last referred to expressly provides that where the alleged adulterer is named in the petition as co-respondent, the claim made by every such petition shall be heard and tried on the same principles, in the same manner, and subject to the same rules and regulations as actions for criminal conversation are now tried and decided in courts of common law. Under this provision particulars have been ordered on the application of the co-respondent as well as of the respondent. (Higgs vs. Biggs, 11 Weekly Rep., 1, 43, and see Hunt vs. Hunt, and Duke 2 Sw., and Trist 574.)

The cases in which the complainant has been required to furnish particulars on the application of the respondent are too numerous to justify their citation here. There are many of them in volumes 2 and 3 of Swaby and Tristrm's Probate and Divorce Court Reports, which we have examined, and a similar order was made by the Supreme Court of Massachusetts in 1834 in the case of Adams vs. Adams, 16 Pick., 354. In this State, Chancellor Walworth, in the case of Wood vs. Wood, 2, page 108, laid down the rules which have since governed in actions between husband and wife for divorce, and rendered applications for bills of particulars unnecessary. It must be remembered that here, when the charge of adultery is denied, the issue is to be tried by jury unless the parties consent to a different mode of trial, and it is even doubtful whether they should be permitted so to consent, but in a contested case the Chancellor laid down the rule as follows:

"The only safe and prudent course is to require the charge, whether of crimination or recrimination, to be stated on the pleadings and in the issues in such a manner that the adverse party may be prepared to meet it on the trial. If the persons with whom the adultery was committed are known they must be named in the defendant's answer, and the adultery must be charged with reasonable certainty as to time and place. If the precise time and place should be stated in the answer and in the issue, and the time and circumstances under which the adultery was committed should be set forth. Neither party has a right to make such a charge against the other on mere suspicion, relying upon being able to flesh up testimony before the trial to support the allegation."

The Chancellor here speaks of setting forth the particulars in the answer because the case then before him was one of recrimination. In the case of the Commonwealth vs. Snelling, 15th Peck., 321, Chief Justice Shaw gave a very thorough examination to the subject of the practice of the courts of common law in requiring bills of particulars, and the principle upon which it is founded, and, after an extensive review of the authorities, came to the conclusion that the general rule to be extracted from them was that where in the course of a suit from any cause a party was placed in such a situation that justice could not be done at the trial without the aid of information to be obtained by means of a specification or bill of particulars, the court, in virtue of its general authority to regulate the conduct of trials, had power to direct such information to be seasonably furnished. The authorities cited by Mr. Evarts in civil cases, but by analogy he applied the principle to a criminal prosecution for libel, and sustained an order requiring the prisoner to furnish particulars of his justification of a general libelous charge against the magistrate.

The same rule is laid down in a recent case in the Queen's Bench in Ireland, (Early vs. Smith, Cyss Com. Law R., Appendix 35,) where it was held, and on the authority of many of the same decisions which are cited by Chief Justice Shaw, that the rule which governs the courts in ordering particulars to be given in that all cases whether treason, felony, or on the case, the court has a general superintending power and control, no matter what the form of the action may be. If the complaint or declaration is conceived in vague and general terms, without specifying the circumstances under or the occasions on which the plaintiff relies, and the defendant satisfies the court, by affidavit, that either for the purpose of pleading or of defense at the trial it is necessary that the plaintiff be more specific and more clearly define his cause of action, the court has a general jurisdiction to order the plaintiff to give a more precise and specific description of that upon which he relies. In the case last cited a bill of particulars was ordered in a case of oral slander. Although no precedent could be found for an order for particulars in such a case, the court determined that the circumstances presented to them brought the case by analogy within the reasons of those in which particulars had been ordered, and that, therefore, they were authorized to afford the relief required.

A reference to a few of the authorities upon which these decisions were founded will show that in almost every case in which defendant can satisfy the court that it is necessary to a fair trial that he should be apprised beforehand of the particul

The New York Times.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, DEC. 8, 1874.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

UNION SQUARE TH ATRE.—Love's Sacrifice—Mr. Rankin, Mr. C. R. Thorne, Jr., Miss Rose Eytinge.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—The Shaughraun.—Mr. J. H. Montague, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Miss Ada Dyas.

PARK THEATRE.—The Gilded Age—Mr. John T. Raymond, Miss Gertrude Kellogg.

FIFTH AVENUE THEA RE—Yorick—Mr. Charles Fisher, Mr. Louis James, Miss Sara Jewett.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—Black Crook—Miss Emma Weatherby, Mrs. A. K. Bowler, Mr. Atkins.

BOOTH'S TH ATRE—Red Tape—The Widow Hunt—Mr. John S. Clarke.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Vaudeville and Variety Entertainment.

LYCEUM THEATRE—The Grand Duchess (Opera Bouffe)—Miss Emily Soldene.

BARNUM'S ROMAN HIPPODROME.—Equestrianism, Athletics—Menagerie—Museum—Open afternoon and evening.

BOWERY THEATRE.—Smoke—Statue of the Period—Mr. W. T. Melville.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.—Dramatic Performance afternoon and evening. Curiosities.

ROBINSON HALL.—Personations and Songs by Mr. Frederic Maccabe.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.—Minstrelsy and Negro Complexities—Messrs. Birch, Wambold, and Backus.

BRYANT'S OPERA-HOUSE.—Minstrelsy—Negro Delineations, &c.—Mr. Bryant, Mr. Seymour.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE.—Variety Entertainment.

ASSOCIATION HALL.—Poetical Readings by Miss Fanny T. Gleason.

TAMMANY HALL.—Billiard Contest between Maurice Vignaux and Cyrille Dion.

DE GARMO HALL.—Lectures by Mr. J. N. Pattison.

REPUBLICAN HALL.—Ladies' Fair of the Church of the Strangers.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES is the best family paper published; it contains the latest news and correspondence. It is free from all objectionable advertisements and reports, and may be safely admitted to every domestic circle. The disgraceful announcements of quacks and medical pretenders, which pollute so many newspapers of the day, are not admitted into the columns of THE TIMES on any terms.

TERMS TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

The DAILY TIMES, per annum, including the Sunday Edition	$12
The DAILY TIMES, per annum, exclusive of the Sunday Edition	10
The Sunday Edition, per annum	2
The SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES, per annum	3
The WEEKLY TIMES, per annum	2

CLUB RATES OF THE WEEKLY.

FIVE COPIES (per annum)	$7 50
TEN COPIES (per annum)	12 50
TWENTY COPIES (per annum)	22 00
THIRTY COPIES (per annum)	30 00

AND ONE EXTRA COPY TO EACH CLUB.

For every club of fifty, one copy of THE SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES to the getter-up of the club.

CLUB RATES OF THE SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES.

Two copies, one year	$5
Ten copies, one year, (and one extra copy free,)	25

New names may be added to clubs at any time during the year, at club rates.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY and WEEKLY mailed one year to clergymen at the lowest rates.

These prices are invariable. We have no traveling agents. Remit in drafts on New-York or Post Office Money Orders, if possible, and where neither of these can be procured send the money in a *registered* letter.

Terms, cash in advance.

Address THE NEW-YORK TIMES,
New-York City.

TO ADVERTISERS.

☞ For the accommodation of up-town residents, advertisements for insertion in THE TIMES will be received at No. 54½ West 32d st., junction of Broadway and 6th av.; No. 308 West 23d st., opposite Grand Opera-house, at same rates as are charged at office of publication.

☞ For the accommodation of east-side advertisers, advertisements for insertion in THE TIMES will be received at the East-side Advertising Office, No. 504 3d av., corner 34th st., Third Avenue Railroad Building, at the same rates as are charged at the office of publication.

☞ Advertisements for THE WEEKLY TIMES must be handed in before 10 o'clock this evening.

NOTICE.

We cannot notice anonymous communications. In all cases we require the writer's name and address, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot, under any circumstances, return rejected communications, nor can we undertake to preserve manuscripts.

This morning THE DAILY TIMES *consists of* TWELVE PAGES. *Every news-dealer is bound to deliver the paper in its complete form, and any failure to do so should be reported at the publication office.*

THE TIMES FREE OF POSTAGE.

We beg to state that Postage will be paid at this office, free, on all Editions of THE TIMES *sent to Subscribers, under the new Law to take effect on the 1st of January, 1875.*

The Court of Appeals has decided that the Judges of the Brooklyn City Court have the power to comply with the motion of Mr. BEECHER'S counsel for a bill of particulars of the offenses charged in Mr. TILTON'S complaint. As the motion was denied almost solely on the ground of supposed want of power to grant it, Mr. TILTON'S counsel will, unquestionably, be required to furnish specific details of Mr. BEECHER'S alleged offenses. That will interpose another delay to the hearing of the case, which will now probably go over to the January term. This decision of the Court of Appeals has a very important legal bearing, besides having a most salutary influence on the present case. For both reasons, we have had it telegraphed in full in a special message to THE TIMES. When the trial shall have been narrowed down to certain specific acts, it ought to be possible not only to keep it within endurable limits, but also to shut out the sickening mass of vague innuendo, loose charges, and irrelevant issues generally, which have marked its presentation before the Investigating Committee and the public.

Considering the fact that there were many busy rumors concerning the positive utterances as to Cuban affairs to be made in the President's Message, what he really says on that subject seems very moderate. He only states what cannot be denied when he reminds us that six years of active hostilities in Cuba have not determined the contest in favor of Spain or the insurgents. It is also true that the manifest inability of Spain to put an end to this wasting war may eventually call for intervention on the part of other powers. There is no indication in the Message that that intervention may be speedily needed, and until we hear further from the Executive, there is no ground for assuming that our Government is likely to take any active steps in that direction.

The *Tribune* is still engaged in its weary work of "getting even" with Senator CARPENTER. It has proved to be a long job, and the virtuous writers for the *Tribune* must be much disappointed to find that their attacks on the "chastity" of the Senator from Wisconsin did not settle his business at once. With them, chastity is so precious that they cannot forgive the slightest indecorum, and Senator CARPENTER'S chief assailant is said never to be likely to commit any. But another line is now taken. Senator CARPENTER, it appears, has "unwashed hands." This is a more terrible discovery than the other. On the chastity question the *Tribune* people are probably ahead of the Senator, but as to the "unwashed hands," we doubt whether they have much to boast about. The Democratic State Committee, and some other persons pretty well known, could doubtless tell us many interesting stories on that subject. In the meantime, we hope Senator CARPENTER will wash his hands and live cleanly.

There are several points of interest touched upon in that part of the President's Message which relates to China and Japan. The President recommends such a close commerce as may be secured by powerful American lines of steamers; but he deprecates that sort of immigration which brings in "contract laborers," who are virtually slaves. Not a few honest and intelligent writers insist that only a small portion of the Chinese who arrive in the United States are liable to any form of restraint from their "head men" or companies. The President's allusion to the payment of the Japanese indemnity will attract attention. This indemnity was agreed to be paid by Japan, in consideration of the Simonoseki forts having fired upon American war vessels. The damage done to the vessels was very slight; but Japan agreed to pay nearly three-quarters of a million of dollars, in gold, in satisfaction for that affront. In consideration of the specially friendly relations existing between our country and Japan, the President repeatedly recommended that the unpaid portion of the indemnity be declined. Congress took no action in the matter; and the President now says that in consequence of this failure, he was obliged to carry out the provisions of the treaty of 1864, and receive the cash. It ought to be said that this affair has caused much mortification in Japan, and the President's reference to the matter shows that he does not relish his share in the business.

Perhaps the most complete and readable newspaper article which has been published on the subject of to-night's transit of Venus will be found in our columns to-day. All the varied aspects of this somewhat complex subject are explained in a manner at once intelligible and interesting. The defects of past observations in regard to the solar parallax, the methods selected for attaining something like absolute accuracy in this one, and the general disposition of observing-stations, with the names of some of the most eminent observers, past and present, are among the points specially bearing upon the great astronomical event of the century, to which ample justice is done in our article of to-day.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

If the Message which the President has this year sent to Congress does not excite any active controversy, it will be because his views upon the chief questions of the day are pretty well known. Those relating to the finances have undergone no change, except that they are more clearly developed and more firmly established. The President does not mince matters in his recommendations concerning specie payments. Interest and duty alike, he holds, urge on Congress a decisive step in this direction. With plenty of capital lying idle, with a great deal of labor unemployed, and with vast natural resources inviting the activity of both, the country still suffers from unparalleled depression and stagnation. The principal cause of this state of things is our obstinacy in keeping our Government notes as a legal-tender currency, driving coin from the country and encouraging speculation, producing endless fluctuation of values, and making of money itself an object of gambling. The remedy is to get rid of this currency by depriving the notes of their legal-tender quality, and paying them as fast as they may be presented. Is it urged that this is unfair to the debtor class, since it will compel them to pay in currency more valuable than they borrowed in? The answer is that, in the first place, the legal-tender quality should be withdrawn only as to contracts made after the date fixed for its withdrawal, and second, that the interest of the debtor cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the performance of an act demanded by the interest of the entire nation, and by the most solemn obligation of duty.

This is in substance what the President has to say in defense of his proposition to repeal the legal-tender clause of the Currency laws. It is unquestionably sound. The mischief arising to the country from our irredeemable currency springs mainly from that clause. Without it, the Government notes would have done comparatively little harm. They would have remained simply evidence of public indebtedness, and as such they would have been paid. If the legal-tender clause is repealed in the manner proposed, the notes become again evidences of debt to be honored by payment. This way of the President is one plain way out.

The legal-tender clause being repealed, the President would honor all Government notes on presentation, getting the specie for this partly by borrowing it, partly by spending less of the revenues, and partly by altering the Tariff and Internal Revenue laws so as to raise more public income—all of which suggestions are business-like and practical. The policy of the President is firmly and ably sustained by the Secretary of the Treasury, who enters more elaborately upon details. Both agree that with the inauguration of specie payments free banking may and should be also inaugurated. We need hardly say that with the spirit of these recommendations we are in entire sympathy, and that we regard the end they have in view as the most important that the country can possibly present to itself. Nor shall we dispute as to methods of reaching that end. We shall support *any* that Congress can be induced to adopt.

The President reports our foreign affairs as in good condition, with some exceptions that may not, or may, become serious. Spain has not yet finally settled the *Virginius* affair. The Cuban revolt continues, and raises the question of the advisability of foreign intervention. The Mexicans are still stealing Texan cattle in great numbers, while the President can only hope that the Mexican Government will co-operate to put a stop to the knavish business. But Major MACKENZIE, we may suggest, found an effective way of dealing with the question without bothering about the Mexican Government. Perhaps the precedent may be worth following.

Along with a great number of minor recommendations, the President devotes a considerable portion of his Message to the condition of affairs in the Southern States. He defines his position as to this question with great frankness. In Louisiana, he will do as he has done heretofore, *i. e.*, he will sustain the Kellogg Government, unless otherwise directed by Congress. (He does not say what he will do about CASEY and PACKARD, or that he will do anything, which is a pity.) Touching Arkansas, he will do nothing, though he lays before Congress a succinct statement of the tremendous muddle into which the politicians of that State have managed to plunge its Government. The President describes the situation of the South which induced him, just before the election, to order numerous prosecutions, and to concentrate troops to support the officers of the law. He says that he understands the Fifteenth Amendment and the Enforcement law to guarantee to all citizens the right to vote, and to protect them in its exercise. He shall administer the law in this sense while he remains President. If Congress thinks that he has acted on mistaken information, perhaps it will order an investigation. As for the citizens of the South, the President gives them some very plain advice in a spirit of frankness and kindness. He deprecates the obstinacy of parties in "dividing on the color line," and he says that it the Southern whites will make up their minds to treat the negro "as a citizen and a voter as he is and must remain," there will be no further occasion for trouble with him. Among the advantages of such a consummation, one would be specially agreeable to the President, that would be his release from the necessity of interfering in the affairs of individual States. It is pleasant to be able to believe that to some considerable extent the whites of the South have anticipated the excellent advice of the President.

We ought, in conclusion, to remark that the President announces his intention of abandoning the civil service reform unless Congress distinctly supports it by legislation. The condition will not be fulfilled, and the reform will die before the 4th of March. We are sorry for it. It was an attempt that promised much, and might have been made to yield a great deal. But if the President has not done with it what he might have done, he has, at least, been far ahead of Congress and of the majority of the public, which bears with great patience a civil service that, in many of its features, swindles, insults, and degrades the country.

HATCH VERSUS *SAGE*.

The stockholders in the Pacific Mail Company will, doubtless, read with interest the statement of their Ex-President, which we publish to-day. Mr. RUFUS HATCH having had a good hearing, it is only fair to listen to Mr. SAGE. And the story which he tells is one calculated to arrest the attention, not only of the shareholders, but of the general public, who are by no means indifferent to the good name of one of the few companies which own an American line of steamers. Our commercial repute has been sufficiently sullied by the Emma Mine, the Erie Railroad, and the scores of lesser known mines and railroads which have been introduced into foreign markets, sometimes with very good names attached to them, and which have turned out arrant swindles. If a list of all these companies could be prepared, with a statement of the capital which has been hopelessly sunk in them, no one would be surprised that American securities begin to be regarded with great suspicion in foreign markets.

The disclosures of the past week prove beyond a doubt that Pacific Mail has been turned into a sort of foot-ball for the operators in the Street. The Ex-President alleges that deliberate frauds have been carried on by the Directors—that is, that "the assets of the company have been grossly overestimated, and the liabilities correspondingly depreciated." What is this but a fraud of the very worst kind? Mr. SAGE now declares that on the day when Mr. RUFUS HATCH made a "clean breast of it," he said that the "indebtedness of the company was about $1,800,000 or $1,900,000;" and, adds Mr. SAGE, "this was the first information I had ever been able to get of the magnitude of the debt." Now against such a statement as this, the mere general assertions of Mr. RUFUS HATCH, whose name carries no weight in the commercial community, cannot possibly have any influence whatever. Mr. HATCH went into office as Director under peculiar circumstances, and it has been asserted that, among other things, he pledged himself to aid in the discharge of STOCKWELL from his great liabilities to the company. Mr. STOCKWELL owed $840,000, and that sum was properly an asset of the company. Now, any Director who connived at the avoidance of this obligation is not fit to represent the honest stockholders, and certainly has no right to ask to be believed when he asserts that the affairs of the company have been properly managed.

A correspondent, who gives us his name and address, and who says that he has been an officer of the company under four administrations, states that upward of $1,700,000 of its capital has been consumed since May 31, 1873. This is a very serious charge, and our correspondent offers to prove it if he is allowed the opportunity, and we shall, of course, be prepared to give his name up to the Pacific Mail Directors if they are willing to accept his challenge. Then, again, there is that secret agreement with Mr. STOCKWELL, by which, according to the information now accessible to the public, the shareholders have been shamefully defrauded. Again, it is asserted that the Directors of the company have allowed their vessels to get into very bad condition, and a report was made to them on that subject by a committee some time ago which appears to prove that statement beyond all possibility of denial. Again, it is openly alleged that the Directors spent about $1,000,000 in lobbying certain bills through Congress, and that no account has been rendered to the shareholders of this expenditure. These are among the charges which Mr. ALEXANDRE, the new President of the company, is bound to meet if he desires to help his company and preserve his own reputation. No general hash or jumble of figures can suffice to dispose of the grave statements above referred to. They should be met in the plainest possible manner. Mr. ALEXANDRE must tell the shareholders the whole truth about the Stockwell affair, about the debts of the company, about the money disbursed at Washington, and about the outstanding liabilities. To issue a cooked balance-sheet would now only make matters worse than they are, for it would instantly be exposed. The Pacific Mail Company is a corporation chartered by the Legislature of the State of New-York. Its recent contract with the Panama Railroad Company practically commits the Pacific Mail to the business of guaranteeing railroad dividends, and if this arrangement is persisted in, the troubles of Mr. ALEXANDRE and his colleagues must be regarded as only just begun. In that case, the Attorney General will be very likely to be appealed to in behalf of the shareholders, and a remedy for their wrongs will have to be sought, not in the election of a new President, but through the instrumentality of a Receiver.

QUESTIONS OF REVENUE.

The estimates of the Secretary of the Treasury for the current fiscal year show a deficit of twenty-two millions of dollars, and for next year of twelve millions of dollars. In other words, the ordinary expenses of Government, including the legal requirements of the Sinking Fund, amount, for the year ending June 30, 1875, to three hundred and six millions of dollars, while the estimated revenues for the same period are but two hundred and eighty-four millions of dollars. For the year ending June 30, 1876, three hundred and five millions will be required, while it is estimated that only two hundred and ninety-three millions will be received.

The first question that arises is, whether the estimates are not likely to prove under the mark; whether there is not a reasonable probability that the revival of business and an increase of the spending power of the people, will enable the Treasury to at least balance expenditures in the course of the next six months. One-half of the fiscal year is pretty nearly gone, and partial returns have already been received for the first five months of that period. They tell the following story: For the fiscal year ending last June the receipts from Customs amounted to one hundred and sixty-three millions; the estimate for the current year is one hundred and sixty-two millions. But while for the first five months of last fiscal year the Customs yielded seventy and a half millions of dollars, for the same period of this year they have yielded only sixty-nine and a half millions. That brings the realized receipts from this source down to the end of November, and shows that the falling off of one million of dollars allowed for by Secretary BRISTOW has already taken place. To bring out, therefore, the amount of his estimates, the Customs receipts of the next seven months will require to be as great as those for the corresponding period of last year. It would, obviously, be altogether too sanguine to calculate on more.

The Internal Revenue receipts for the last fiscal year were one hundred and two and a half millions of dollars; for the current year they are estimated at one hundred and five millions, or an increase of two and a half millions of dollars. For the five months ending with November, 1873, the receipts from Internal Revenue were thirty-nine and a half millions of dollars. For the five months ending with November last they reached the amount of forty-three and three-fourths millions. Here is an increase of four millions and a quarter on less than half the year, while the Secretary's estimates only call for an increase of two and a half millions on the entire year. But almost the whole of this realized gain is due to the increased receipts for October and November; and owing to the immediate operation of the panic, the receipts for these two months were abnormally low, that is, they represented a great deal more than their just proportion of the falling off during the last fiscal year. It is perfectly safe and prudent to calculate on a slight advance in Internal Revenue receipts over those of last year, but it would be neither the one nor the other to make that calculation on the basis of the entirely exceptional recovery manifested during the last two months.

The ordinary receipts, other than those from Customs and Internal Revenue, amounted during last fiscal year to about nineteen millions of dollars. For the current year they are estimated at sixteen and three-fourths millions, or a falling off equal to two and a quarter millions of dollars. The actual receipts from these sources during the first quarter of the current year show a falling off to the amount of six hundred thousand dollars as compared with the same period of last year. The Secretary has simply assumed that this ratio of decrease will be maintained throughout the remaining three-quarters of the year. One item of these receipts is that due to Customs' fines and penalties, and as the revenue from this source has suddenly shrunk from four hundred and thirty-eight thousand dollars for the first quarter of last year to thirty thousand dollars for the three months ending last September, it will be admitted that this part of the Secretary's estimates is probably placed at as high a figure as results will justify.

Without going into the figures for next financial year, which are simply an expansion of the preceding, it is obvious that there is nothing in the present state of the revenue to warrant the belief that the estimated deficit of twenty-two millions of dollars is at all above the mark. The rate of expenditures for the year has already been fixed by Congress at what was considered a very low figure. Half the money appropriated will be spent before Congress gets fairly to work on this subject, and any relief in the shape of new measures of retrenchment applying to the second half of the year is out of the question. The faith of the nation is solemnly pledged to pay before the 30th of June next thirty-one millions of dollars into the Sinking Fund provided for the redemption of the public debt. It is hardly possible that more than nine millions of dollars will be forthcoming to meet that obligation. It is the clear duty of Congress to set about devising means to raise the twenty-two millions left unprovided for. That can only be done by the imposition of fresh taxes—a duty which was shirked at last session, only to return in a more imperative form at this one. Secretary BRISTOW is evidently of opinion that the duties on tea and coffee ought to be reimposed. He shows that their remission has resulted in little or no reduction of prices to consumers, but has had the effect of raising prices abroad. Had these duties been revived so as to affect the receipts of the current fiscal year, there would have been no deficit staring us in the face. They would, at their old rates, have just about covered the twenty-two millions which must now be provided for. As it is, their reimposition, even if immediate, can now only cover half the impending deficit. As the natural result, therefore, of its time-serving and cowardly policy of last session, Congress will have the disagreeable and difficult task of finding means of raising ten or eleven millions more.

THE SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENTS.

Since about the time when CHARLES LAMB spoke of HEROD as a much traduced monarch, children have been subjected to certain exterminative processes not quite so rapid and bloody, it is true, as that employed by the ballet-loving King of Judea, but quite as effective and almost as extensive in their operation. The means by which the superfluous juvenile population has been weeded out are food and clothing. It is only necessary to look at the portraits and the book-illustrations of the times of our grandfathers to see the great change which has taken place, not only in the outward fashion of children's clothes, but in their seeming purpose. In those days the little man and the little woman were dressed in garments of the same cut and the same material as those worn by their elders. There was a difference in some cases, but it was very slight; and we are amused as we look, for instance, over the now eagerly-sought volumes illustrated by BEWICK'S wood-cuts, to see little master and little miss walking with papa and mamma, looking like absurd reductions of their prim and awful parents. But this style of dress, although open to very serious objection on the ground of taste and the fitness of things, had certainly one merit—it clothed the children sufficiently. They may have been hampered and cramped by the formality of their garments, but they as well as their elders were protected against the inclemency of the weather. In the generation following a change was made, and jackets, or round-abouts, and trowsers came in for boys, with simpler gowns and long aprons with sleeves for girls. But with regard to both sexes, the protection which the body needs for three-quarters of the year, here and in England, was kept in view. Boys wore long woolen trowsers, girls warm, loosely-hanging petticoats, and long drawers; and both wore in Winter woolen or merino stockings, with warm thick shoes. This the elders of the present generation remember, and they say that they were not any too warm in those thick, clinging garments.

The change which has taken place in this respect, and which we see daily, was graphically set forth in an article republished in THE TIMES from the Boston *Transcript*, in which the dress of a little girl and her father walking upon the bleak ascent of Beacon street were contrasted. The strong, mature man was clad in closely-fitting garments of woolen and fur; the little, weak, immature girl in light stuffs, short as to their dimensions, and as to their texture, stiffened most of them with starch. Nothing sat close to the poor little creature but a pair of cotton stockings. Now, the wind or the damp will go through a pair of tight cotton stockings as quickly as it will through a piece of paper; in fact, much more quickly, for paper has not the meshes of all stocking material—woven or knit—and which when strained become only so many open holes for the passage of air and moisture. But even this slight protection for the legs was, in this instance, as in most others of the poor little creatures of her condition in life, shamefully incomplete, and between the stocking and the drawer was a place bared to the chill east wind. We have all seen the counterpart of this unfortunate little daughter of wealth and fashion hundreds of times. She is to be found on almost any cool breezy afternoon in Madison square, in the Fifth avenue, and in those neighborhoods. Every man of sense has pitied these poor little lasses, and yet how many men of sense have allowed their wives to trick out their darlings in this absurd, this almost inhuman fashion! The universal desire to be elegant—not in manners but in clothes—is one of the curses of the present generation, and it has extended itself, like most curses, from the parents to the children, and particularly to the girls; for, Heaven be thanked, it is not very easy to do much in the way of elegance with romping young hobbledehoys of from five years to fifteen. But notwithstanding all difficulties, rich and fanciful mammas do contrive to get their young hopefuls into rich and fanciful garments, the chief peculiarity of which is insufficient protection of the legs and feet. Every mother knows, or should know, that a small body is much more easily chilled, and therefore needs much more protection against cold, than a large one; and that a child, except when in active exercise, should be comparatively much more warmly clothed than a full-grown person, although of course not more so than one far advanced in years. As Bunsby said, "the bearin's of this remark lies in the application of it." To those who can apprehend its importance it needs no other enforcement.

But children suffer not only from the way in which they are clothed, but from that in which they are fed—say, rather, in which they are allowed to feed themselves. It is only within the last quarter of a century that children have been allowed to sit at the table with their elders on all occasions, and to eat just what they like of whatever is before them. To see some of these little creatures making a breakfast of beefsteak, omelette, coffee, and buckwheat cakes swimming in melted butter and syrup is a dreadful sight to any person who can look a few years ahead and foresee the consequences of such a diet—dyspepsia, a craving for strong, rich, highly-seasoned food, which yet cannot be digested—this and its sad concomitants, that need not be particularly mentioned, come of such injurious indulgence in early youth. Our children, most of them, are suffering from the manner in which they are allowed to indulge their appetites. They are devouring highly-seasoned meat when they should have nothing except bread, oat-meal, hominy, milk, a little meat plainly cooked once a day, and perhaps pudding of the simplest kind. In this way the healthy children of the healthiest and wealthiest people in the world are brought up, among whom going to the table with their parents and eating whatever is there is unknown until they are well on toward manhood and womanhood. We, or very few of us, can afford a nursery table; but we can restrain the appetites, or rather the fancies, of our children, as ours were restrained in our own childhood. And there is nothing of more consequence to them than these matters of food and clothing and the health thereon dependent. Health is better than wealth or knowledge; so much better that there is no comparison between them. This, above all other things, every mother should consider in her heart, and particularly as to her daughters; and yet it is the young girls who most of all are made to suffer from their mothers' fanciful notions and permitted indulgence of their own fanciful appetites.

AMUSEMENTS.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE.

Lovell's play of "Love's Sacrifice" was acted at the Union Square Theatre last evening. The performance afforded much wholesome pleasure to a large and appreciative audience. "Love's Sacrifice," however, is a little out of date, and its story is drawn out to a rather excessive length. Had it been less cleverly acted than it was last night, the result of the revival would hardly have been doubtful. As it is, the representation was followed with unvarying interest. It calls into requisition the services of almost all the members of the company, and this is saying a great deal, and especially when the larger part of the characters have adequate portrayal. Mr. McKee Rankin is certainly not the best representative of *Matthew Elmore* we have seen, but his acting in that rôle is often pathetic and always forceful. Mr. Charles R. Thorne, Jr., finds a congenial personage in *Lt. Lo*, and Mr. James W. Collier keeps up with the general performance as *Eugene De Lorme*. Mr. F. F. Mackay's picture of *Paul Lafont* would claim the praise due to a *création* as well as that which a studied and effective effort always deserves, were it not a faithful copy of his *Uriah Heep*. As for Mr. Stuart Robson, he is one of those privileged beings who need but speak to elicit merriment, and his sketch of *Jean Ruse*, if not remarkable for design or detail, had the rare merit of putting and keeping everybody in capital humor. The female *dramatis personæ* in "Love's Sacrifice" were distributed with equally satisfactory consequences. Miss Rose Eytinge depicted *Margaret Elmore* with genuine feeling and consummate art, and Miss Kate Claxton, by avoiding an affectation she has often been taxed with, contributed to the entertainment a graceful and piquant sketch of *Herminie*. The piece, we need but add, was handsomely set. It is to hold the stage throughout this week, at all events.

A CHARITABLE CONCERT.

An attractive concert was given at Steinway Hall last evening, in aid of the Home for Christian Care. The programme was interpreted by Mmes. Henry Butman and J. M. Davidson, Messrs. Pattison and Simpson, and an orchestra. We have seldom heard so fine an interpretation of "Bel Raggio," by an amateur, as that of Mrs. Butman. We confess to some astonishment at the lady's division of the words in the first two phrases of the aria, and cannot say that we admire her trill nearly so much as her choice of Dr. Ganz's "a Nightingale's Trill" as a response to an encore would indicate that she does, but if Mrs. Butman can sing most compositions with the fine tone of voice and the rare fluency, brilliancy and accuracy of execution noticeable in the Rossinian *morceau*, we would willingly exchange many professionals against her. Mrs. Davidson also sings with taste and precision, but the selection of "O Mio Fernando" was not particularly happy, for the higher register of the lady's voice is unquestionably the best.

MR. PATTISON'S LECTURES.

Mr. Pattison's last lecture on music, with piano-forte illustrations, may be attended at De Garmo Hall this evening. Mozart's works are his theme.

MR. FREDERIC MACCABE.

After holding forth with much success for several weeks at Steinway Hall, Mr. Frederic Maccabe has removed to Robinson Hall in Sixteenth street, near Broadway. He performed there last evening to the delight of an audience which filled every part of his new abode. Mr. Maccabe's cleverness as a monologue artist is so generally acknowledged that very little additional comment upon his style is at present necessary. Besides, many of the parts in which he appears have already become familiar to New-York audiences, brief as his stay has been. His present programme is somewhat different, however, from that which he interpreted on the occasion of his first recitals, and adhered to even up to the present week. Several of the best sketches of the earlier selection have been retained; but he sings some new songs, and exhibits as effectively as heretofore his power over the voice in the art of ventriloquism. An important feature of Mr. Maccabe's performances is the rapidity with which he effects the changes required for the portrayal of the different personages assumed by him, and the completeness of the "make-up," withal. An estimate of this rapidity may best be formed when it is known that his transition from the ordinary evening costume of a gentleman to the attire of a lady in full dress is executed in something less than half a minute, and he is equally quick in other metamorphoses. Music, vocal and instrumental, enters into the present entertainment as into its predecessor, and several of the performer's songs and instrumental pieces are of his own composition. In the present programme Mr. Maccabe retains his most amusing sketch of the London street musician, whose cracked voice and eccentric behavior invariably provoke boisterous applause. He has added to his list another character, that of an "old salt," who "spins a yarn," and a third, a dual character, dressed to represent at once a male and a female personage, to each of whom Mr. Maccabe in turn suits his voice and facial expression. Mr. Maccabe has had Robinson Hall renovated and expressly prepared for his labors, and if his reception last evening be taken as any indication of the length of his sojourn there, we think he will not find himself possessed of a desire to change for a long time to come.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.

A new play by Mr. Dominick Murray entitled "The Organ-Man, or the Fool of Love," was produced at this establishment last evening. Mr. Murray taking the part of *Leonard Ashton*. The plot of the piece is not absolutely devoid of novelty, and the dialogue, if not very refined, is certainly lively and pointed. Miss Sophie Miles was an interesting *Grace Ashton*, and Mr. Sheldon played *Jerry Pitcher*, an organ-grinder, with more care than he usually bestows upon the rôles intrusted to him. At the matinées at Wood's, "The Ticket-of-Leave Man" is given, in which Mr. Leffingwell appears.

NEW-ORLEANS COTTON EXCHANGE.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 7.—John Phelps was re-elected President of the Cotton Exchange to-day. J. B. Lafitte, Vice President, and W. C. Black, Treasurer. The Board of Directors is composed of six buyers, two brokers, and seven factors, giving the buyers and brokers a majority.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The papers concerning the foreign relations of the United States, transmitted to Congress this afternoon with the President's Message, make a volume of 1,222 printed octavo pages, from which the following items of interest are extracted:

CLAIMS OF PROTECTION BY NATURALIZED CITIZENS.

In October last Acting Secretary of State Cadwallader addressed a letter to Minister JAY, at Vienna, acknowledging the receipt of a communication in reference to the case of Josef Baris, who had presented a naturalization certificate to the Austrian authorities as proof of citizenship. Mr. Cadwallader says: "The right to enjoy such privileges as may attach to a citizen of the United States, is properly proved by the production of a passport legally issued. In every case where the action of a diplomatic or consular officer of the United States is invoked on behalf of a person claiming to be a citizen of the United States, it is incumbent on such officer, not only to carefully and zealously guard and protect the rights of all bona fide citizens, but also to carefully abstain from committing this Government to a demand for protection on behalf of a person presenting a false or fraudulent claim to citizenship. Naturalized citizens, who have become such solely to avoid the duties and burdens attached to a residence in and allegiance to their own country, and who have returned to their native country without any intention to reside in the United States, or to assume the duties or burdens common to its citizens, who, in other words, are desirous of enjoying all the benefits and immunities common to citizens of each country, and of avoiding all corresponding duties in each, may be held to have forfeited all right to the protection of the United States. Particular instructions will be found on these questions in section 30 of the personal instructions lately issued.

The attention of the department has also been called on several occasions to applications for passports in foreign countries, founded on certificates of naturalization, which upon their face bear conclusive evidence that they have been illegally or fraudulently obtained. In such cases a passport should be refused and the fraudulent certificate forwarded to this department.

Secretary FISH, writing to Chargé d'Affaires Nicholas FISH, at Berlin, in August last, says: While acknowledging the receipt of the correspondence between Mr. Bancroft and the Minister of Foreign Affairs in relation to the interpretation and application of the fourth article of the naturalization treaty of Feb. 22, 1868, between the United States and the North German Union, that Mr. Bancroft's note of the 28th of June to Mr. Von Bulow correctly sets forth the interpretation of that article of the treaty as understood by the Government; and it is with much satisfaction that the President learns that that interpretation is not controverted by the German Government, which declares its intention to execute the treaty at all times with the greatest moderation and respect for the rights of individuals. The point suggested by Mr. Von Bulow that the treatment of each case must depend entirely upon the circumstances of the same is in accord with the position which this Government holds.

The value of American citizenship must not be trifled with. This high right must not be invaded by fraud or by false representations, and when honestly acquired and faithfully maintained, must carry with it to its possessor all the privileges and the protection which a great Government can give to its citizens. The case of Mentheim Coon seems to be disposed of. Without admitting the inference drawn by Mr. Von Bulow from his recital of the facts of the case, it cannot be denied that that inference is, at the least, plausible.

The Legation will in the future continue carefully to watch the rights of all naturalized citizens of the United States who may visit or temporarily tarry in Germany, and will assert for them all the privileges and immunities to which they are entitled by treaty or by public law. At the same time it will be careful not to commit the Government of the United States in a demand for its protection in behalf of one who may be manifestly presenting a false or fraudulent claim of citizenship, or who may have already forfeited his right to citizenship in accordance with the letter and spirit of the treaty.

THE RECENT CHINESE REBELLION.

Chargé d'Affaires Williams, writing to the Secretary of State under date of Peking, February 1st, speaks of the reduction of the last stronghold of the Mohamedan rebels who controlled the north-western provinces of Shensi and Kansuh for more than ten years. He shows the merciless nature of Chinese warfare, and the rancor of war as aggravated in this rebellion by the bitterness of religious bigotry in which the Mohammedans excelled. There is no reason for doubting the statements here given, and as the rebels had themselves given no quarter, I suppose they expected none. The insurrection thus ended has left large portions of these two provinces nearly depopulated, and years must elapse before they can recover from the desolations of war. In cases where these rebels, who are said to be all pure Chinese, and not Turks, met bodies of native Catholics in their progress, they are reported to have always spared their lives if not found in arms. The capture of Suh-Chan brings to an end all organized rebellion within the borders of China proper, or the eighteen provinces. It began in 1848, in the towns lying west of Canton City, and, through the mismanagement of the provincial authorities, its leaders waxed stronger and more desperate, and, under the name of Taepings, (Great Peace,) nearly succeeded in dismembering the Empire. They were finally subdued in 1865. After the capture of Nanking, the Mohammedans rose in array in the south-west and north-west, where they set the Imperialists at defiance for ten years or more, but are now no longer formidable, and the few Chiefs who may have escaped with a small following, will not be able to gather head in those devastated districts. The manner in which orderly Government, trade and rebuilding in the ruined towns has revived in those departments in the Valley of the Yangtze, which were left almost like a wilderness in 1865, leads me to hope for a similar reviving in the Western provinces.

CHRISTIAN MISSIONS IN COREA.

Mr. Williams says, March 30: A Roman Catholic Bishop, whose diocese comprises a part of Manchouria and the region contiguous to Corea, has lately reached Peking from Newchioang, and brings an account of an entire change in the Government of Corea within the last three months, and the removal of the ruler who had usurped the chief authority during the past fifteen years. The change has been brought about without bloodshed, and the Bishop ("Monsignor R.") looks forward to a peaceable state of their missions, seeing that the new authorities are favorably disposed toward foreigners and Christianity.

THE TRIPOLI SLAVE TRADE.

The following was received by Secretary Fish from Sir Edward Thornton June 30 last:

SIR: In compliance with an instruction from the Earl of Derby, I have the honor to inclose a copy of a dispatch addressed to his lordship by her Majesty's Consul-General at Tripoli, in which he expresses his opinion that the slave traffic from Tripoli to Constantinople, via Malta, is on the decrease, and that there is no reason whatever for supposing that the Malta police authorities in any way connive at its existence.

VAGRANT ITALIAN CHILDREN.

Secretary Fish, addressing Count Corti, the Spanish Minister, in May last, acknowledging the reception of letters referring to the alleged vagrancy of Italian children, and the false inducements under which they are taken from their native land, and inclosing an act promulgated by the Italian Parliament on the 25th of December last, says:

"This Government cordially unites with that of Italy in the hope that that Government may, by the means of this act and the energetic enforcement of its most commendable determination, suppress the traffic in these poor children referred to in your note, and succeed in arresting the very inhuman practices which the Italian Government so strongly condemns."

AMERICAN CITIZENS IN THE FORMOSAN EXPEDITION.

Secretary Fish, writing to Mr. Bingham, our Minister at Japan, July 26

THE PACIFIC MAIL JOB.

MORE REVELATIONS OF THE TROUBLES OF THE COMPANY.

EX-PRESIDENT SAGE'S LETTER TO THE STOCKHOLDERS—WHY HE LEFT THE CONCERN—THE COMPANY'S DEBT NEARLY $2,000,000—MR. HATCH'S ORDERS ON BOARD THE PEKING—A NEW PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR ELECTED—MR. HATCH TALKS OF RESIGNING—WHERE THE PRESENT TROUBLE BEGAN.

The affairs of the Pacific Mail Steam-ship Company continue to excite the liveliest interest in financial circles, and is the almost exclusive topic of discussion in Wall street. The general impression seems to be that the most damaging reports as to the mismanagement of the company and the rotten condition of its finances are well founded, and that a radical change in the administration of the business of the concern is imperatively demanded in the interest of the stockholders. The assurances of the Managing Director in regard to the promised "statement," which, it now appears, will only be a partial statement after all, are almost universally received with derision, and nothing is more certain than that, before confidence can be restored, an investigation must be made and conducted by parties above suspicion.

Brokers laugh to scorn the notion of expecting from Mr. Hatch, occupying the position he does, a true exhibit of the affairs of the concern, and say that anyone who knows Mr. Hatch would never dream of his doing anything likely to interfere with his own private interests, from any considerations of abstract morality. Only by a Congressional investigation, it is claimed, can the truth be ascertained as to the actual financial condition of the company, and it is hinted that the stockholders will, without delay, take measures to bring about such an investigation. The stock yesterday exhibited great weakness, declining in the early part of the day 2¾ per cent., though subsequently there was a reaction and partial recovery. Holders are evidently in a "panicky" state of feeling in regard to the security and a still further decline is anticipated.

MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS.

At 1 o'clock the Directors held a meeting for the purpose of electing a successor to the late President, and of filling the vacancy created in the directory by his retirement. The choice for President, as was generally anticipated, proved to be Mr. Francis Alexandre, of the Havana and Vera Cruz line of steam-ships, and Mr. William H. Fogg, of Fogg Brothers, No. 32 Burling slip, was elected a Director and Vice President.

It is stated on good authority that in the progress of the meeting Mr. Hatch took occasion to make a little speech, in the course of which he said that the time had come, or was, perhaps, not very remote, when it might become his duty to tender his resignation of the office of Managing Director. This, he thought, might be his best course in order to leave the directory unembarrassed in sustaining the interests of the company against the attacks now being made. As a matter of record, however, it may as well be stated that he did not tender the resignation, though there was no objection interposed by any of the directors present, chiefly because it was believed that the remarks were put forth to draw, if possible, some complimentary indorsement. It this was the drift of the effort it failed of its object.

Subsequent to the meeting Mr. Fogg stated in conversation with a reporter that he had not signified his intention of accepting the positions to which he had been elected, but held the matter under advisement. He had been told by Mr. Gulon and Mr. Alexandre that the statements in the newspapers affecting the financial status of the company were devoid of foundation, but under the circumstances he felt that he required other evidence on the subject, and could not rest satisfied with mere vague assurances no matter how respectable their source. He was aware, he said, that the ships were run more on Wall street than on the ocean, but still he hoped that the promised statement would be of a satisfactory character. It was at the solicitation of parties interested in the company that he had consented to allow his name to be put in nomination; but he felt that in justice to himself he could not accept until a thorough and truthful exhibit of the condition of the concern was given to the stockholders and the public. Mr. Fogg is extensively engaged in the China trade, which accounts for his interest in Pacific Mail. Judging from the tone of his conversation he evidently entertains serious doubts about the financial status of the company.

HOW THE COMPANY'S MONEY HAS BEEN EXPENDED.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

As Mr. Alexandre, one of the Directors who signed the deceptive report of Sept. 18, has just been elected President of the Pacific Mail Company, and as he announces to-day his intention of publishing to-morrow a full statement of the company's assets and liabilities, (including, it is to be hoped, their expenses as well as their earnings,) I think it my duty, as one thoroughly cognizant of all the facts, to forewarn the public and the holders of this unfortunate stock that this report, issued within twenty-four hours after the assumption by Mr. Alexandre of his new duties, must necessarily be nothing more nor less than another statement from Mr. Rufus Hatch and his subordinates.

Mr. Rufus Hatch has publicly stated that the company is now in a most prosperous condition, and Mr. Alexandre is committed over his own signature to the attempt to bolster up the deception of Sept. 18, in the style taught by the old Tammany Ring before its exposure by THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

Having been an officer of the company under each of the last four administrations, including the present, I know whereof I speak when I say that any statement which overlooks, disguises, or conceals the fact that the company has consumed over $1,700,000 of its capital since May 31, 1873, without counting interest, insurance, or depreciation, will be false and fraudulent.

I am a poor man, but this having become a question of public morals, affecting every person who owns a dollar of the stock of any corporation, I will give all I am worth, viz., $10,000 in United States currency, to be deposited with any banker you may designate, if the Directors of the Pacific Mail Company will prove by the examination of an expert accountant, to be designated by me, that the following statement of the extraordinary resources consumed by them in the last eighteen months is not substantially correct. I inclose my name and address:

CURRENCY.	
Coal, valued on the books at (estimated).	$600,000 00
Stock from Mr. Stockwell	430,000 00
Floating debt, at least	400,000 00
Bills payable Sept. 18	468,000 00
Cash and investments May 31, 1873	501,000 00
Panama Railroad Company loan	500,000 00
Sale steamer New-York	$256,000
Sale steamer Montana	79,000
Sale steamer Rising Star	35,000
Sale steamer Ocean Queen	25,000— 395,000 00
Russell Sage, due him	125 000 00
John Roach, due him Sept. 18	19 ,000 00
Insurance, City of Guatemala	243.00 0 00
California Dry Dock stock sold	96,000 00
San Francisco office property sold	25,000 00
Total	$3,973,000 00
Less—Payments on new steamers	$1,836,118 87
Cash on hand (estimated)	$200,000 00— 2,036,118 87
Total loss since May 31, 1871	$1,836,881 13

I charge that these losses have been incurred by the Directors of the Pacific Mail Company, in which they have little or no stock, to benefit their own interests as Directors and stockholders in the Panama Railroad Company.

They have slaughtered Pacific to fatten Panama!

I charge that, in the face of Mr. Rufus Hatch's blatant and never-ending proclamations of reduction of expenses, the expenses of operating the company's line, outside of the single item of coal, have never been so large.

The cost of telegrams alone, or of advertising, almost equals, if it does not exceed, the entire cost of agencies under Capt. Bradbury, while Mr. Rufus Hatch has increased, instead of diminishing, these latter also.

In regard to coal, no credit whatever is due to the present management, which is simply working and bragging about the ships designed and contracted for under Messrs. McLane and Stockwell.

We hear a great deal from Mr. Rufus Hatch about the honesty of himself and his subordinates, and the wickedness of everybody else. To those who know the character and reputation of Mr. Rufus Hatch's General Manager in China and Japan, Henry Hart, this boast, to borrow the classical language of Prince Kung, "must be relegated to that class of subjects which makes one smile."

What are we to think of a similar appointment in San Francisco in the person now charged with the expenditure of nearly $300,000—in repairs, &c., on the old Dakota, to replace the New-York, a much better steamer, recently sold to the Japanese for considerable more money?

It is not only the employes of former administrations whom Mr. Rufus Hatch has accused, and driven out of the service, (not including the writer,) but also his own appointees by the score, and with a rapidity which keeps the service constantly recruited with green and ignorant hands in every situation, from top to bottom.

Mr. Rufus Hatch recently stated that the Alaska was "not leaking," and was "fully insured."

I have the best reason for believing that she was not insured as all, and the *Illustrated London News*, of Nov. 21, page 496, will show even to those who have not seen the photographs in Mr. Rufus Hatch's own possession why she is "not leaking," viz., that she is high and dry! Indeed, where she now lies she can be got off by no human agency, nor by any other less than that of another typhoon of equal magnitude. The typhoon season is over for this year, although the season of telegrams still rages.

Is it true that the steamer New-York could have been sold a short time previously to her actual sale for $100,000 more, and that although she was sold direct by Henry Hart to the Japanese Government for $250,000—Mexican dollars—a commission of $19,000 was deducted by him as having been paid to somebody for a pretended brokerage?

To whom will Mr. Rufus Hatch be good enough to state how much less, if any, than $70,000 have been expended by him for the so called trial trips or excursions of the Peking, Tokio, Great Republic, California, China, &c., including the loss on that "tea and silk merchants' trial trip" to Panama.

CUTOFF.

NEW-YORK, Monday, Dec. 7, 1874.

STATEMENT BY RUSSELL SAGE.

To the Stockholders of the Pacific Mail Steam-ship Company:

You have seen by the daily press the announcement of my resignation of the Presidency of your company. In offering it, I stated all that I considered necessary in the way of motive, and expressed sincerely my kindly discention toward the company and my best wishes for its prosperity.

I should have had nothing more to say, but that I have since found myself the subject of attack through the same channel, chiefly emanating from Mr. Rufus Hatch, and expressed with a coarseness of language and rudeness of manner which seem to make it a matter of self-respect, (considering especially my relation to other large corporations,) and of duty to you, to make this statement. To those of you who know Mr. Hatch it is needless to portray him. To those who do not the information will perhaps be as surprising as it may be useful, that he is a man of unbusinesslike habits, violent and vindictive temper, coarse language, and ill-balanced mind. His recent conduct I impute, upon satisfactory grounds, to motives the opposite of candor and disinterestedness. I have often had differences with him, arising out of what I regarded extravagance in his management, and gross errors of judgment, arising from want of the needful temper and self-control. I remember a recent occasion on which the exhibition of his peculiar qualities, put at risk the ship City of Peking, then just starting a voyage of 12,000 miles, with a cargo of great value; and I can appeal to my fellow-directors, Messrs. Alexandre, Talcott, and Grion, who were witnesses of the facts, to corroborate my statement of them.

The vessel was lying at anchor in the lower bay, waiting to have her compasses adjusted, when Mr. Hatch, in presence of crowds of guests and passengers, and in the most violent manner, commenced an attack upon the Captain, first officer, and engineer, expressed in the same boisterous manner and coarse language which have characterized his recent conduct toward me.

He declared that these three officers should then and there be made to vacate their posts, and submit to be replaced by others whom he would pick up before the vessel started; and the scene was only ended by the interference of the United States Adjutant of Companies and of Mr. Roach, and by the exertions of Messrs. Alexandre, Talcott, Grion, and myself, who, by great exertions, prevailed upon him to suspend his display of violence.

I refer to these matters that you may know the character of the swift witness against me. I might instance other similar or worse conduct of Mr. Hatch which I, with others, have tried to control and counteract in your interest, but for the present forbear.

My personal connection with your company has been that of a large creditor and stockholder. A little more than a year ago, just before the beginning of the panic, the company was in great trouble for want of means. Its ships were under seizure at the wharves for taxes unpaid, and its current wants were greater than it could meet. I was called upon to aid it, and I did aid it with my means and credit to a large amount, having as security the unearned subsidy from the United States Government. I carried my loan through the days of the panic, and I subsequently since then contributed to the company with means to buy coal and other supplies, at such times and in such a way as to secure to it either large savings or large profits in the use of money. I have advanced largely to save its credit and repay overdrafts, and I am now one of the largest of its creditors.

I was very unexpectedly elected as its President, without any solicitation on my part, and under peculiar circumstances. The then President, Capt. Bradbury, was in San Francisco, whither he had gone to solicit a loan. In that, however, he had failed. During his absence the Vice President was charged with dereliction of duty, suspended, and removed. Capt. Bradbury resigned by telegram, and I was put in the position which he vacated. I have performed its duties without pay, directly or indirectly. I have had neither salary, commission, nor interest in contracts for buildings or repairs, and I have not otherwise profited by the position. The habits of my life, in my personal business and in that which I have managed for others, have been habits of economy, and I have tried to practice them in virtue in my official position in your company. While approving the excursions which tended to bring the company and its ships into notice, and not regretting the hospitality which was exercised on those occasions, I set my face against the unjustifiable and extravagant claims which grew out of them, and thence arose some difficulties with Mr. Hatch, which partly account for his present attitude.

I have been charged with speculating in the stock of the company. I was once asked if I had sold stock short, and answered in the negative. It was then asserted that I had had an interest in a sale of stock made by Mr. Jay Gould. That is true, but the sale referred to was not a short sale. Mr. Gould had made a sale of 1,200 shares, and at his request I sent his broker 400 shares which were my own stock, purchased before the sale was made. That was not a short sale, and I have never sold or contracted to sell, or to deliver, any stock but such as I already owned and had possession of. I admit that I have sold calls to a limited extent, but never except when I had the stock to respond to the calls.

I have often sustained the credit of the company by purchasing its stock. My means are limited; to dispose of purchases so made I have sold "calls;" that is, stock for future delivery. I am in the way of doing business with many men who, in anticipation of their income, desire to fix a price at which they can invest in the purchase of stock when their income is available. I have never fixed a price or sold a call unless I actually had the stock in my trunk and owned the same. I have never considered and do not consider sales of stock in this way as inconsistent with the duties of my position, or injurious to the company, the effect of my action has been to sustain the market and maintain the credit of the company. The position in which I was placed by reason of Mr. Hatch's manners and language and want of business habits, long ago made the position of President distasteful to me. I determined not to accept it again, and so informed him at the meeting at his house to which he refers. It is utterly untrue that I begged or in any way solicited him to let me remain. The position which I occupied was not his to bestow. I did not call on him for that purpose, and expressed no such wish. In consequence of what had happened on the previous evening, I was led to believe that he was acting in harmony with the purposes of those who were hostile to the company, and who desired to use him in connection with stock operations from which he was to derive personal profit. My chief object in calling on him was to get what information I could on that point, and to influence him, if possible, against connecting himself with any such scheme. To enforce that appeal and dissuade him from the further continuance of the connection which I was satisfied he had formed, I stated to him that he was likely to be dependent upon the company for years and that he ought to make its interests his own, while my own official connection with it was sure to be temporary and limited to my present term of office. This style of remark is what he has absurdly perverted into an appeal from me to him that he let me remain. In that interview he told me that the indebtedness of the company was about $1,800,000 or $1,900,000, including $500,000 due the Panama Railroad Company. Mr. Hatch explained that about $200,000 of this indebtedness was the result of extra work on the steamers Peking and Tokio.

This statement of indebtedness then made by him was a surprise to me; it was larger than I had supposed it to be. This was the first information I had ever been able to get of the magnitude of the debt. I then and there advised a full and complete statement to be made out to the stockholders so that each man might see exactly what the position of the company was, and what we had done since we became connected with the company; suggesting that the new steamers would soon begin to earn money, and would soon reduce the amount of the debt; and with the improved condition of our means for doing business, and the large surplus of coal, together with the advanced rates for doing business and the general favorable prospects of business, with rigid economy in our expenses I believed that we would be able to discharge and pay off this indebtedness; in which he fully concurred. Our views at that interview appeared to be in harmony.

After that interview I very soon became convinced that outside stock operators, relying on the co-operation of Mr. Hatch, were endeavoring to create an atmosphere of prejudice and distrust against myself, in which I should find it difficult to exercise any good influence for the company. Having other large interests to attend to, and with little inclination to be kept in contact with intrigue, deception, violence, and bad management, I resigned. I have learned that Mr. Alexandre has been elected my successor. I feel it to be my duty to you to here bear cheerful testimony of my full confidence in him as a business man, and as a man of integrity, experience, and capacity. I believe if he can carry into effect his own ideas of economy and management of the affairs of the company, he will be eminently successful in promoting its interests. He has my best wishes, and will have, whenever and as often as he requires it, my hearty co-operation.

Gentlemen, you have a fine property, and are engaged in a noble enterprise. It has not been as successful in the past as you could have desired, but I am satisfied that, with wise, honest, and economical management, your investments are of value.

That you may have repeated and continued practical demonstration of this fact is the sincere wish of your obedient servant,

RUSSELL SAGE.

A FEW INQUIRIES.

The following is from the Wilmington (Del.) *Every Evening*:

The Pacific Mail Steam-ship Company has been financially in hot water for some time, and the real cause of the trouble is that its expenditures have, for some time past, been exceeding its receipts. Anxious stockholders are disposed, however, to push their inquires beyond this answer and ask: Why have the expenditures been so great, and what has been done with the money? There is a suspicion that a large amount of the money was spent in lobbying for the subsidy. The New-York TIMES says:

"So far as we can make out the chief points in dispute in the controversy now going on in reference to the Pacific Mail Company are these: How much did the company pay to secure the act of Congress giving it its subsidy? Some people say it was a million; some more, some less. It appears to be a fact beyond dispute that lobbying the bill through Congress did cost a large sum of money. In what way is this sum entered upon the books?"

We think we can add a few inquiries, true answers to which may show how some of the cost of lobbying charges were entered on the books. They are: 1. Why did John Roach, the Chester ship builder, suddenly change from actively opposing the subsidy by Congress to working for it with the enthusiasm of an interested party and the skill of a practiced lobbyist? 2. Were the ships subsequently built by Roach built as cheaply as they could have been built by other parties? 3. was there not a distinct understanding between representatives of the company and Roach that if he would lobby for, instead of lobbying against, the subsidy scheme, he would have the building of the two large steam-ships City of Peking and City of Tokio, at a price named by himself at the time the bargain was made?

These are questions we will not attempt to answer ourselves, but we believe very firmly that if those now inquiring into this matter will make efforts to obtain true answers to them they will discover something interesting, even if they do not obtain a full answer to the last of the queries by THE TIMES, quoted above.

THE LATE CHARLES N. TALBOT.

OFFICE OF THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL COMPANY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 4, 1874.

At a special meeting of the Board of Managers of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, held on Thursday, the 3d December inst., it was resolved that the President be requested to convey to the family of our late associate and friend Charles N. Talbot, the expression of our profound grief and sincere sympathy in the event which has deprived them of their honored head, and this company of the genial presence and of the valued services of its oldest member.

There is left to them and to us the satisfaction and the solace, that in life he was pure and lovely and of good report; that he passed through the trials and responsibilities of an active business life with a character for integrity that ennobles all success, seeking in retirement relief from the cares that attend a public career.

From his rural retreat, and from his City home, he brought to the occasional meetings of this board the calm judgment and the serene deportment of the retired merchant and the true gentleman.

It has been said by one who knew him well, that "Mr. Talbot has left no better man behind him." In this sentiment and in the sorrow that his death brings to all that knew him best, the members of this board fully share. Hence it is ordered that there be inscribed on our minutes, as a testimonial to the worth of the departed, this too feeble tribute to his memory.

By order of the board.

GEORGE L. HAIGHT, Secretary.

LORD AND TAYLOR.

The display in the various departments of dry goods at Lord & Taylor's this Christmas far surpasses that of any previous season. Indeed, the husband would be bold who, in these economical times, would accompany his wife along the richly-laden counters of the Broadway and Twentieth street store, so tempting are the colors and tissues, so delicate the tinted shades, so beautiful the embroideries. The loveliness of Fifth avenue can appear of an evening in such bewitching shades of silk as are known as Eglantine, Ciel Indien, Leman, Nymphe, Regina, Mecca Clair, Rose Vif, &c., and imagine herself lounging in an Indian pagoda, paddling on Lake Geneva, making a pilgrimage to Mecca, &c. But it must be with an intense effort of the imagination; for, despite the poetry of the names, the shades are more suitable to a nineteenth century drawing-room, or they can raise envy and astonishment among the masses by promenading Broadway in silks knit in Scotland, Oura, Arnodoise, Alligator, Renoncule, in one of Bonnet's heavy black gros-grains, or in one of Lord & Taylor's satin finished cachemire black silks. Messrs. Lord & Taylor have also a full and varied stock of fancy silks in Red Railway stripes in every color, for evening wear, at fifty cents a yard—the original price having been $1 a yard. They have also a full line of the finest Lyons black velvets, for dresses or cloaks, from twenty-eight to forty inches wide, and a full line of colored and black velvets for trimmings, &c. As to costumes, the young lady must be difficult to please who could not suit herself, as is the case in the fur department, where handsome fur and seal-skin suits are arranged for Christmas presents. The lace department contains everything choice and elegant, and has a novelty in the way of fancy handkerchiefs, with colored silk borders, some of which are trimmed with lace and have embroidered initials. Gentlemen, too, in their especial department, can find everything that will put the finishing touch to their Christmas attire in the way of gloves, scarfs, ties, &c.; and for their afternoon siesta in the way of slippers and dressing-gowns.

On the ground floor Messrs. Lord & Taylor have again collected an assortment of toys which will be a haven of happiness to the youngsters after their elders have got through their heavy shopping; the more so as there are on the same floor counters bearing silver-ware, portrait albums, French clocks, bronzes, vases of all shapes and kinds, and everything that the supreme genius of a fancy goods department ever thought of in the way of nick-nacks. From morning till night this department is thronged, as indeed are all the other departments of the store, for none think they have duly performed their ante-Christmas duties till they have been to the corner of Broadway and Twentieth street to see what Messrs. Lord & Taylor have provided for their gratification.

THE ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY.

The annual dinner of the St. Nicholas Society of this City, held at Delmonico's last evening, was a great success, over 200 members, with their guests, sitting down to the repast. Before the dinner the officers of the society for the coming year were duly installed by Mr. James W. Girarde, after which the banquet was proceeded with. The first speech of the evening was made by the new President, Mr. Augustus R. McDonough, and the regular toasts were then proceeded with and responded to as follows:

Saint Nicholas—Santa Claus—The name which childhood learns to lisp after that of mother. With faith in him, life is full of sunshine. Responded to by B. A. Rogers, Esq., of Albany.

The President of the United States.

The Governor of the State of New-York.

The City of New-York—Once an Island City, she has, with true Dutch contempt for the watery element, and despite the Harlem and Spuyten Duyvil, overstepped her natural boundaries. Responded to by Mayor S. H. B. Vance.

The Army and Navy—The country's defenders on land and sea.

Responded to by Gen. Webb.

Holland—The land of dams and dykes, of Van Dams and Van Dykes. The dams and dykes remain, but the Van Dams and Van Dykes have become the vanguard of civilization in our land, where neither dam nor dyke is needed.

Responded to by Hon. John R. Planten, Dr. Schenck, and Dr. Vermilye.

Our Sister Societies—We welcome and honor them, of whatever nationality.

Responded to by Hon. John R. Brady for St. Patrick's, Hon. Isaac H. Bailey for New-England, Mr. Gordon for St. Andrew's, and Mr. Bellew for St. George's.

Addresses were also delivered by Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, Ex-Mayor Hall, and others.

Baldwin the Clothier, of this City and Brooklyn, employs one hundred and fifty salesmen on Saturdays, and keeps them busy retailing Men's and Boys' Clothing C. O. D.—*Advertisement.*

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES.

THE NEW-YORK SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES, published THIS MORNING, contains the very latest telegraphic and general news; editorials on matters of current interest; a page of carefully-prepared commercial matter, giving the latest financial news and market reports, items of agricultural and domestic interest, and other interesting reading matter.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES may be had at the counter of the Publication Office, in wrappers ready for mailing. Price, FIVE CENTS.

Bunions, Enlarged Joints of the Hands or Feet, Corns, Neuralgia, Pains in the Back or Loins, Sore Throat. Cure guaranteed. GILES' LINIMENT IODIDE OF AMMONIA never fails. 50 cents and $1 a bottle; quarts, $2 50. Sold by all druggists. Depot, No. 451 6th av.

Hair Dye.—W. A. Batchelor's Hair Dye is splendid; best in the world. Never fails. Established thirty-seven years. Sold by druggists everywhere. Sold and properly applied at BATCHELOR'S celebrated Wig and Toupee Factory, No. 16 Bond st., New-York.

Colds and Coughs.—Sudden changes of climate are sources of PULMONARY AND BRONCHIAL AFFECTIONS. Take at once "BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES," let the Cold, Cough, or Irritation of the Throat be ever so slight.

White teeth, sweet breath, a fragrant mouth, There are no charms surpassing these; Abroad, at home, East, West, North, South, These three prime charms are sure to please. And those who SOZODONT apply Will have these charms—take heed and try.

Atkinson's White Rose, 55 cents a bottle. W. M. GILES & CO., Chemists, No. 451 6th av., New-York.

Wedding Cards, No. 104 Fulton st. WILLIAM EVERDELL'S SONS. Established 1815. No branch offices.

Everdell's principal office, No. 302 Broadway.—Wedding and ball cards, orders of dancing, engraving, and printing of every description.

For an elegant fashionable Hat of superior quality go direct to the manufacturer, ESPENSCHMID, No. 118 Nassau st.

Keep Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry always in the house. It is the best cough remedy known.

Lundberg's Perfumes are like Natural flowers and bouquets.

Wm. Everdell's Sons, No. 104 Fulton st. Established 1815. Printers. No branch offices.

For a First-class Dress or Business Hat go to the manufacturer, ESPENCHEID, No. 118 Nassau st.

MARRIED.

KENNEDY—PRATT.—In this City, Dec. 2, at the residence of Dr. Henry K. Owen, by Rev. Thomas S. Hastings, D. D., assisted by Rev. Henry M. Scudder, D. D., and Rev. William Newell, D. D., Mr. E. R. KENNEDY, of Brooklyn, and Miss LUCY B. PRATT, of this City, eldest daughter of the late Henry Z. Pratt.

DIED.

ANDERSON.—On Sunday, Dec. 6, at 10:45 A. M., PETER R. ANDERSON, aged 65 years, 1 month, and 14 days.

Funeral services from his late residence, No. 119 Elliott place, near Fulton av., Brooklyn, on Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 9, at 3 o'clock. Relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

BANCROFT.—At his residence, Rockford, (near Wilmington,) Del., Second day, Twelfth month, 7th, JOSEPH BANCROFT.

Notice of funeral hereafter.

BAILES.—At Tarrytown, N. Y., Dec. 6, 1874, NATHANIEL BAILES, in the 84th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral from his late residence, Main st., on Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 2 o'clock P. M., without further notice. The remains will be taken to New-Rochelle for interment. Carriages will be in waiting at the depot.

BENNETT.—Yesterday, Dec. 7, after a severe illness, HENRY BENNETT.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from the residence of her parents, No. 14 Cambridge place, Brooklyn, on Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 2 o'clock P. M.

DILWORTH.—At her late residence in Hoboken, N. J., on Monday evening, Dec. 7, MARY D., wife of William H. Dilworth.

The funeral will take place from Trinity Church, Hoboken, on Thursday, the 10th inst., at 10 o'clock A. M. Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend.

EDDY.—At Harlem, on Sunday, Dec. 6, 1874, CHARLES S. EDDY, only child of John M. and Sarah R. Eddy, aged 3 months and 25 days.

The funeral will take place at the residence of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence S. Kerr, No. 149 East 40th st., on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 P. M. The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

GARDNER.—Suddenly, on Friday evening, Dec. 4, WILLIAM GARDNER, Commissioner of Docks, in the 55th year of his age.

Funeral services at the Seventh Presbyterian Church, corner Broome and Ridge streets, on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 4 o'clock P. M. Relatives and friends of the family, and members of the Veteran Association of the Seventh Regiment, N. G., are respectfully invited to attend without further invitation.

The members of the Council of Political Reform are requested to attend the funeral of their friend, WILLIAM GARDNER, which will take place at the church on the corner of Broome and Ridge sts. on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 4 P. M.

By order of the council.

H. N. BERRS, Secretary.

HAMILTON.—In Brooklyn, on Monday morning, after a lingering illness, Mrs. MARY DAVY HAMILTON, relict of Horatio S. Hamilton, deceased.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral services at the residence of her nephew, E. A. Starr, No. 148 Carroll st., on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 2 P. M. Remains will be taken to Danbury, Conn., on Wednesday, for interment.

HILGER.—At Lennep, Prussia, on 7th inst., suddenly, FREDERICK WILLIAM HILGER, 58 years, senior partner of the firm of Hilger Brothers.

IVES.—In Sunday, Dec. 6, at his residence, No. 117 East 30th st., GEORGE WHITFIELD IVES, M. D., aged 55 years.

The funeral will take place from the Episcopal Church in Stamford, Conn., Dec. 8, at 3 P. M. Trains leave New-York at 8 A. M. and 12 M.

JACKSON.—At Orange, N. J., on Saturday morning, JESSIE D. E., wife of R. D. Jackson.

Services at residence, Centre st., at 2:30 on Tuesday, the 8th inst. Trains leave Barclay and Christopher sts. at 1 o'clock. Carriages in waiting at depot on arrival of train.

KIMBALL.—At Newburg, Dec. 6, Rev. JOSEPH KIMBALL, D. D., Pastor of the First Reformed Dutch Church of Brooklyn, in the 55th year of his age.

His friends and the clergy of Brooklyn are respectfully invited to attend his funeral at the First Presbyterian Church, Newburg, on Thursday, the 10th inst., at 1 o'clock. Trains leave Chambers st., North River, at 9 A. M. and 11 o'clock A. M.

MOORE.—On Saturday, Dec. 5, 1874, JOHN WHITLEY MOORE, aged 36 years, of the firm of P. Hanford & Co.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, No. 1 Lexington av., on Tuesday, the 8th inst., at 10 o'clock A. M.

MOSTYN.—On Saturday evening, the 5th December, BERKELEY MORTIMER, son of Berkeley and the late Mary L. Mostyn, aged 4 days.

NATHAN.—On Saturday, Dec. 5, DORA, wife of Grats Nathan and daughter of Jacob Hart.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, No. 218 West 45th st., on Tuesday morning, Dec. 8, at 10 o'clock precisely.

PUTNAM.—At Saratoga Springs, Friday, Dec. 4, ELLEN HANDIE PUTNAM, daughter of George Rockwell and Mary Brooks Putnam, aged 7 years.

QUINTARD.—On Saturday, 5th inst., of diphtheria, SALLY WATERBURY, second daughter of John A. and Mary A. Quintard, aged 5 years and 11 months.

Funeral services at the residence of her parents, No. 175 Carlton av., Brooklyn, at 9:30 o'clock Tuesday morning. Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend. The remains will be taken for interment to Stamford, Conn., by the 1 P. M. train New-York and New-Haven Railroad.

SCHARFF.—At Newark, N. J., on Sunday, the 6th, Mrs. IDA C., wife of Adrian Scharff, Esq., in her 71st year.

The funeral services will be held at the North Reformed Church, Broad st., Newark, on Wednesday, the 9th, at 2 o'clock P. M. Relatives and friends are invited to attend without further invitation. Carriages will be in waiting at the Centre st. Depot, Pennsylvania Railroad, on arrival of train leaving New-York at 1 o'clock P. M.

WRIGHT.—At New-Utrecht, on Sunday, Dec. 6, STRONMAN WRIGHT, in the 70th year of his age.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 2 P. M. Train leaves Green-Wood for Bath at 1 P. M.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AS A FAMILY LINIMENT, THE HOUSEHOLD PANACEA is invaluable. Immediate relief follows its use in all cases of pain in the stomach, bowels, or side; rheumatism, colic, colds, sprains, and bruises. For internal and external use.

TO CLEANSE AND WHITEN THE TEETH; to remove tartar from the teeth; to sweeten the breath and preserve the teeth; to make the gums hard and healthy, use BROWN'S CAMPHORATED SAPONACEOUS DENTIFRICE. 25 cents a bottle.

CHILDREN HAVING WORMS REQUIRE immediate attention. BROWN'S VERMIFUGE COMFITS, or WORM LOZENGES give the best possible effect. Sold by druggists. 25 cents a box.

AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD of Trustees of the Bond Street Savings Bank, held on Monday, Dec. 7, 1874, the following minute was presented:

DEATH.—On Friday, the 4th inst., suddenly summoned from among us, WILLIAM GARDINER, a most highly-esteemed member of this board.

Resolved, That in this, as it is fitting that his surviving co-trustees should bear test mony to the sterling worth and faithfulness of which we were eye-witnesses while he was with us, it is also but our duty to place on record our sense of the loss that has been sustained by his sudden and untimely death. Esteeming him one who, in all the relations of life, both as a Christian and a philanthropist, as a citizen and a merchant, came fully up to the standard and stature of a man whom to know was to esteem and honor, and with whom it was no small privilege to be associated.

Bowing in reverence to the inexorable fiat which called him so unexpectedly away from the many spheres of usefulness which he so well filled, and in which he had been a faithful steward, and deeply deploring his loss, we tender to his widow and family our sincere and unfeigned sympathy in their affliction.

Resolved, That the members of this board will attend the funeral services of our deceased friend and associate at the Seventh Presbyterian Church, corner of Ridge and Broome sts., in this City, at 4 P. M., Tuesday, 8th inst.

Resolved, That the foregoing testimony be entered upon the minutes of this board and a copy thereof be sent to the family of the deceased.

HARRISON HALL, President.

J. P. COOPER, Secretary.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

The mails for Europe for the week ending Saturday, Dec. 12, 1874, will close at this office as follows: On TUESDAY at 11:30 A. M., on WEDNESDAY at 11 A. M., on THURSDAY at 11:30 A. M., and on SATURDAY at 6 and 11:30 A. M.

T. L. JAMES, Postmaster.

A POSITION AS ORGANIST AT A CHURCH—Neither Protestant or Catholic—in this City, is desired by a Lady, who is thoroughly conversant with the highest order of music. Satisfactory references as to ability, &c., will be given. Address F., Box No. 130 *Times* Office.

IMPROVED EUREKA PATENT GAS-BURNER; a saving of from 20 to 25 per cent. by this burner; the light is increased by about the same percentage. Depot and general agency for the United States, No. 40 Cortlandt st., New-York.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The attention of connoisseurs is invited to a *Diamond Necklace, composed of thirty-four perfectly-matched stones of the purest water, graduated from one to three carats each, and weighing altogether fifty-five carats. Price very low. Also, to several pairs of large Solitaires, which in size and quality cannot be equaled.*

HOWARD & CO., Diamond Merchants, No. 222 5th av. Open in the evening.

WALTHAM WATCHES for holiday presents. The largest assortment in the country at the lowest prices.

HOWARD & CO., NO. 222 5TH AV. Open in the evening.

Our stock of Fancy Goods is of the best quality, and includes many exclusive patterns not to be found elsewhere. At this season of the year the market is full of inferior and unsalable goods, partly the remnants of wholesale stocks imported for the country trade and of consignments from manufacturers which could not be sold at auction. A comparison of our goods, all of which are fresh and of our own importation, will show that a good article can be purchased of us as low as a poor one elsewhere.

HOWARD & CO., NO. 222 5TH AV. Open in the evening.

For convenience many of our goods are arranged on tables at uniform prices. Thus there is a table on which all articles are $3 each, another at $5 each, another at $10 each, &c., &c. All goods marked in plain figures, and can be freely examined without any importunity to purchase.

HOWARD & CO., NO. 222 5TH AV. Open in the evening.

We have one of the largest and best collections of real bronzes and clocks in the City. We have no imitation bronzes whatever. Our prices will be found unusually low.

HOWARD & CO., NO. 222 5TH AV. Open in the evening.

FINE JEWELRY of the latest patterns, including a large assortment of children's jewelry for Christmas.

HOWARD & CO., No. 222 5th av. OPEN IN THE EVENING.

THIS (Tuesday) EVENING, at the CLINTON HALL SALE-ROOMS, first night's sale of this EXTRAORDINARY COLLECTION of WORKS by the GREAT MODERN MASTERS. Also, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY EVENINGS, at 7:30 o'clock each evening. On exhibition each day at the Art Rooms, No. 817 Broadway, until 1 o'clock P. M.

The Messrs. LEAVITT, Auctioneers.

THE HASELTINE COLLECTION.

MINERAL SPRING WATER.—FRESH MEDICAL TESTIMONY FOR BETHESDA.—Elizabethtown, Ky. Dear Sir: At your request I write you what I know of the marvelous effects of BETHESDA WATER in the cure of kidney diseases, &c. I have prescribed it for the last year or two in a number of cases, and know it to have cured several cases of diabetes, hemorrhage of the kidneys, dyspepsia in its most protracted and threatening character, dropsy, chronic diarrhœa, &c., but above all does it seem to be a catholicon in all urinary and uterine diseases. Nothing that I know relieves the suffering and pain of ladies while passing the critical period of life, between the ages of forty and forty-five; nothing restores the bloom of health to the bloodless pallor of the cheek of the young maiden, as certainly and speedily as this water. In female troubles it could be universally used, it would be utterly impossible to estimate the amount of pain, suffering, and despondency it would alleviate. I do not understand how it is that this water cures such a variety of diseases, unless it be by rinsing from the blood all of its impurities, restoring the healthy functions of all the important organs of life, and establishing a healthy sympathy between these organs, leaving the powers of nature nothing to do but to conduct

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

BAKER'S ISMAILIA.

ISMAILIA, A NARRATIVE OF THE EXPEDITION TO CENTRAL AFRICA FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE TRADE. Organized by Ismail, Khédive of Egypt. By Sir SAMUEL W. BAKER, Pasha, M.A., F.R.S., F.R.G.S. 1 vol., 8vo, with maps, portraits, and upward of fifty full-page illustrations by Zwecker and Durand. New-York: HARPER & BROTHERS.

Ismailia is the long anticipated account from Sir Samuel Baker himself of the inception, progress, and termination of the expedition organized by the Khédive of Egypt for the suppression of the slave trade in that part of Central Africa south of Gondokoro. That a ruler, who was indirectly deriving large resources from this infamous traffic, should have been brought to sanction such an expedition and to furnish the men and the means necessary for its accomplishment is signal proof of the powerful influence of the moral sentiment of the civilized world. That the Khédive should have placed in the command of the expeditionary force an Englishman is entire evidence of the corruptibility of his own officers, and a tribute to his faith in the honesty and firmness of Sir Samuel Baker; or in view of the intrigues which were ultimately developed there is room for the suspicion that a foreigner was selected to give the appearance of greater sincerity and earnestness in, and of deeper sympathy with, the objects of the undertaking than were ever actually entertained. However this may be, there can be no question that Sir Samuel Baker performed his part of the great task with a degree of energy, perseverance, and determination which deserves unbounded admiration, and he gives the history of the expedition with a frankness and directness which at once win the sympathy and excite the keenest interest of every reader.

From the very nature of the trade and the manner in which it has been prosecuted it is impossible to arrive at any definite data regarding the actual number of slaves taken annually from Central Africa. It is the opinion of Sir Samuel Baker that at least fifty thousand negroes are each year either captured and held in the numerous zaribas (or camps) or are sent out of the country via the White Nile and the various routes overland by Darfur and Kordofan. With the frightful loss of life attendant upon the capture and subsequent treatment of the slaves the civilized world has been made familiar through the previous narratives of Sir Samuel Baker himself, of the lamented Livingstone, of Schweinfürth, and of other explorers. No written description can do justice to the sufferings of the captured negroes, nor can any adequate idea be given of the complete disorganization of the districts which have been subjected to the raids of the slave-traders. The natives must either submit to the violation of their women, the pillage of their crops, and to every possible insult, or they must desert their homes and seek independence in distant districts, or they must ally themselves with their oppressors to assist in the devastation of other districts. "Thus," as Sir Samuel Baker remarks, "the seeds of anarchy are sown throughout Africa. The result is horrible confusion—distrust on all sides—treachery, devastation, and ruin." It was ostensibly to remedy this condition of affairs that Ismail Pasha, the present Khédive, organized the expedition, the command of which was intrusted to Sir Samuel Baker. In the firman appointing him, the Khédive specified as the objects of the expedition, the annexation to Egypt of the countries south of Gondokoro, the suppression of the slave trade, the introduction of a system of regular commerce, the opening to navigation of the great lakes of the equator, and the establishment of a chain of military stations and commercial depots, distant at intervals of three days' march, throughout Central Africa, accepting Gondokoro as the base of operations. For the accomplishment of these purposes, Sir Samuel Baker was clothed with absolute and supreme power, even that of death, over all the members of the expedition, and over all the countries belonging to the Nile Basin south of Gondokoro. It is unnecessary to rehearse all the details of the organization of the expedition. These were fully given in the newspapers at the time of its starting. It is enough to say that besides himself and Lady Baker, there were thirteen Englishmen, including engineers, shipwrights, boiler-makers, and two servants, in the party, and the military force detailed by command of the Khédive numbered over sixteen hundred men, including two batteries of artillery. One paddle steamer, two twin-screw high-pressure steamers of 108 and 38 tons respectively, all built of steel, in England, and so that they might be taken apart and carried in sections, furnished the means of transport for this force. There were, besides, steam saw mills, with a boiler of eight hundred weight, all in one piece, and stores for four years' consumption. All these articles, including the steamers, saw mills, and boilers, had to be transported by camels across the Nubian Desert, and by boats and camels alternately from Alexandria to Gondokoro, a distance of about *three thousand miles*. The peculiar and immense difficulties attending the movement and transportation of such a body of men and such heavy material cannot be imagined by any but those who have made themselves familiar with the physical characteristics of the African continent. That Sir Samuel Baker, with his previous knowledge of the country, and his extensive practical experience of its swamps and marshes, and its uncertain rivers, should have ventured to take the responsibility of leading into the interior an expedition the very size of which was a serious obstacle in the way of its easy progress, may be accepted as all the proof that need be desired of his enterprise and boldness.

Only a brief summary can here be given of the leading events of the movements of the expedition. The Khédive's firman made Sir Samuel Baker commander of the expedition for four years from April 1, 1869.

Six steamers, varying from forty to eighty horse-power, were ordered to leave Cairo in June, together with fifteen sloops and fifteen dahbeeahs—total, thirty-six vessels—to ascend the cataracts of the Nile to Khartoum, a distance by river of about 1,450 miles. These vessels were to convey the whole of the merchandise. Twenty-five vessels were ordered to be in readiness at Khartoum, together with three steamers. The Governor General (Djiaffer Pasha) was to provide these vessels by a certain date, together with the camels and horses necessary for the land transport. Thus, when the fleet should arrive at Khartoum from Cairo, the total force of vessels would be nine steamers and fifty-five sailing-vessels, the latter averaging about fifty tons each.

The military arrangements comprised a force of 1,645 troops, including a corps of 200 irregular cavalry and two batteries of artillery. The infantry were two regiments, supposed to be well selected. The black, or Soudani, regiment included many officers and men who had served for some years in Mexico with the French army under Marshal Bazaine. The Egyptian regiment turned out to be for the most part convicted felons who had been transported for various crimes from Egypt to the Soudan.

The artillery were rifled mountain guns of bronze, the barrel weighing 230 pounds, and throwing shells of eight and a quarter pounds. The authorities at Woolwich had supplied the expedition with 200 Hale's rockets—three-pounders—and fifty Snider rifles, together with fifty rounds of Snider ammunition. The military force and supplies were to be massed in Khartoum ready to meet Sir Samuel Baker's arrival.

The absence of the Khédive in Europe delayed the departure of the steamers and sailing flotilla from Cairo until Aug. 29, when the vessels reached the second cataract the river had fallen, and it was impossible to drag the steamers through the passage until the next season. Thus twelve months were wasted at the outset, and the expedition was at once deprived of the invaluable aid of six steamers. Khartoum was reached via Suez and Souakim early in January, 1870, and after a month spent there in more thoroughly organizing the force and in weeding out the incompetents, the expedition started for the interior on Feb. 8, 1870. The White Nile had meantime become so thoroughly choked up by an accumulation of vegetable matter that the slave-traders had been compelled to abandon its navigation, and, taking advantage of their experience, Sir Samuel Baker determined to work his way through the Bahr Giraffe to its junction with the main river. Deep and narrow as was the Bahr Giraffe, drift vegetation had choked it up also. Weeks and months were spent in cutting channels through this débris, so that it was not until the middle of April, 1871, that Gondokoro was reached. The story Sir Samuel Baker has to tell of the obstacles which he surmounted during this period is one of the most remarkable passages in the whole narrative, and exhibits in the strongest light his wonderful energy, perseverance, and practical skill. Canals were cut through stiff clay for hundreds of yards; the enormous quantity of machinery was discharged, conveyed across the land by a short cut, and finally reshipped upon the thirty-one vessels which had thus been lightened sufficiently to admit of their being dragged up the stream. Day after day the leader of the expedition was exploring in his small boat through mud and marsh, but fortunately he was completely fever-proof, and did not see a single sick day during all this trying period. Finally, when the vessels had been brought by infinite labor and exertion within a mile and a half of the junction with the White Nile, and when that river was actually within sight, the whole fleet became "hard and fast aground." At this point nothing but the sight of the White Nile ahead of them and the indomitable courage of their leaders prevented the men who composed the expeditionary force from abandoning all further effort. Sir Samuel Baker proved equal to the emergency. He at once determined to make a dam behind the vessels so as to inclose the position in which the flotilla lay. Fortunately he had with him a great quantity of fir timber in the shape of beams and rafters for building purposes. With these he determined to drive two rows of piles which should extend across the river, and Mr. Higginbotham, the engineer, assisted by Lieut. Baker, and the Englishmen together with all the Egyptian mechanics at once set about the work. Sir Samuel Baker writes:

"The piles were driven with some difficulty, and diagonal struts were fastened from the top of the front row to the base of the rear. Horizontal beams then secured the entire line of skeleton bridge. For two days 1,500 men were employed in making fascines of long, thick reeds tied in large bundles, in the centre of which was concealed a mass of about fifty pounds of stiff clay. These bundles were firmly lashed with twisted rushes. I had 500 corn-sacks filled with sand and clay; these were to form the foundation of the dam, and to prevent the water from burrowing beneath. Every company of troops had to prepare a certain number of fascines, which were piled on the side of the river, which had now exposed solid banks overgrown with the high reedy grass. This immensely long and thick grass, resembling sugar-canes, was exactly the material that we required. It was this grass that created natural obstructions, and would, therefore, assist us in our artificial obstruction or dam. The sailors of the fleet worked in divisions under separate officers.

On March 14 all the preparations were completed for the work of filling in the dam. Great piles of solid balls of clay, of about forty pounds each, had been arranged in convenient places to stop up any leaks that should occur. I stood on one of the stranded boats only a few yards from the row of piles. The men were all in their places. The buglers and drummers stood upon another vessel ready to give the signal. At the first bugle every two men lifted the sacks of sand and clay. At once all the drums and bugles then sounded the advance, and five hundred heavy sacks were dropped into the row of piles, and firmly stamped down by the men. The troops now worked with intense energy. It was a race between the Soudanis and the Egyptians; this was a work to which the latter were accustomed in their own country. The sailors worked as vigorously as the troops; piles of fascines and clay balls were laid with extraordinary rapidity, while some stamped frantically and danced upon the entangled mass, all screaming and shouting in great excitement, and the bugles and drums kept up an incessant din. A long double line of men formed a transport corps, and passed a never-failing supply of fascines to the workers, who stood in the water and kneaded firmly the adhesive mass.

At 2:15 P. M. the river was completely shut in, and the people, with increased energy, worked at the superstructure of the dam, which now rose like a causeway for about 110 yards from shore to shore.

At 3:30 the water had risen to an extent that obliged the men in some places to swim. The steamer that had been hopelessly stranded, and the entire fleet, were floating merrily in the pond. Thank God I had forgotten nothing in the preparatory arrangements for the expedition. Without the spades, hoes, grass-knives, bill-hooks, timber, &c., &c., we never could have succeeded in this journey."

Thus Gondokoro was reached early in April, 1871, and when two years of the time for which his commission had been issued was expired, Sir Samuel Baker and his force were only at the point which he had proposed to make his base of operations. It was necessary, however, to organize a military station at this point, and from this depot, which was called Ismailia, this narrative takes its name.

The first step in the prosecution of the expedition was the subjection of the powerful Bari tribe immediately to the south of Gondokoro. This task occupied the rest of 1871, and in March, 1872, the force started for Masindi, the capital of the Unyoro country, which was governed by Kabba Réga. After the formal annexation of this territory Kabba Réga revolted, made a treacherous attempt to poison the expeditionary force, and then threw some thousands of his subjects upon the station which Sir Samuel Baker had established. The assault, which was a desperate one, was repulsed, but the sudden outbreak of hostilities compelled a retreat to Rionga, which was commenced on the morning of June 14, 1872. During the ten days following, the little company—for Sir Samuel Baker at this time had with him only about one hundred men—was steadily pressed by the natives, who were constantly preparing ambuscades and attempting to overwhelm the party by sheer force of numbers. Had the natives been wary and vigilant enough to keep up their attacks by night as well as by day, which they fortunately failed to do, there can be little question that the rumors of Sir Samuel Baker's death, which were at one time widely circulated and generally credited, would have become a reality. Probably the natural cowardice of the natives prevented them from organizing night attacks. However this may have been, the result showed that Sir Samuel Baker's homely but forcible assertion that his command, reduced as it had become, was able to cope with a "whole world of niggers," was not, after all, much of an exaggeration.

To show the peril to which the expedition was exposed during this excessively trying march, it is worth while to quote the account of but a part of a single day's experience. The force left Masindi, as has been stated, on June 14, 1872. By taking advantage of a dark, drizzly morning, and starting early, the natives were eluded, and it was not until late in the day that an ambuscade was encountered. Howarti, one of the most faithful of Sir Samuel Baker's followers, was here wounded by a spear. At night the party camped as it best could. The narrative proceeds:

"The night passed without an attack. On the following morning, June 15, poor Howarti was evidently about to die, but the plucky fellow faintly said that he could ride a donkey if assisted. It was impossible to carry him, as the path was too narrow for four people to walk beneath a stretcher. He was placed upon a donkey, and supported with difficulty by a man at his side. I was obliged to pile upon the fire a number of things that we could not carry, including the large cakes of the ammunition, as the men were already overloaded. It was just at noon when we cleared the mountainous castle and once more began to stagger forward. Immediately ordered them to be abandoned, as I felt certain that in the event of a general attack they would have created great confusion, by probably rushing down the line and overturning the men. It was the greatest relief to be rid of the animals; then we marched on steadily at about two and a half miles an hour, through the usual narrow path amidst gigantic grass (now about nine feet high) and thick forest.

In about an hour and a half we arrived at a descent, toward a bottom in which there was a broad, open swamp, with a stream running through the centre. The advance guard was not more than a hundred yards from the bottom, and the line was descending the hill in close order, when a sudden uproar broke out, as though all the demons of hell had broken loose. Yells, screams, drums, horns, whistles from many thousand concealed enemies for an instant startled the troops. A tremendous rush in the grass gave notice of a general attack from an immensely powerful ambuscade. The officers did their duty. Every road was upon the ground, and in a moment alternate files were facing to the right and left, kneeling just as the lances began to fly across the path. The bugles rang out 'fire,' and the fight commenced on our side. I saw several lances pass within an inch or two of my wife's head; luckily we were kneeling on one knee. The file-firing was extremely good, and the Sniders rattled without intermission. The grass was so dense that simple buck-shot would be reduced to a very limited range, although excellent at close quarters. The servants quickly handed the elephant breech-loaders, and a double shot to the right and left was followed by the loud explosion of the picrate of potash shells against some unseen objects, either men or trees. A quick repetition of the picrate shells seemed to affect the spirits of the attack. I imagine that the extremely loud explosion of the shells in the midst, and, perhaps, also in the rear of the enemy, led them to suppose that they were attacked from behind.

It is difficult to say how long the attack continued, but a vast amount of ammunition was expended before the lances ceased to fly through the line, and the drums and horns were at length heard at a greater distance in the rear. The bugle at once sounded the 'advance,' and I marched the men forward, crossing the stream at the bottom, and gained the open, where we found ourselves in a kind of swampy field of about ten acres. 'Ha!' exclaimed many of the soldiers, 'if we could only get them on a clear space like this.' The men were mustered. Poor Howarti was dead, and they had left him in the grass by the roadside, as it was impossible to transport him. The rear guard had been hotly pressed, and the natives had rushed upon the path close to the Sniders, which had punished them severely. Had we depended upon muzzle-loading muskets, the party would quickly destroyed; the sharp fire of the Snider, at close quarters must have caused immense loss at the first onset.

I now determined to lighten the loads considerably. It was difficult to carry the angareebs, as the legs caught in the high grass. I spoke a few words to my men, who declared that they were not afraid of the natives if they were not so heavily laden. We collected wood and made a fire, upon which I ordered everything to be burned that was really cumbersome. The bedsteads were broken up; a case of good French cognac was committed to the flames; Lieut. Baker's naval uniform, with box, &c.; the cocked hat frizzled up on the top of the bonfire. The men were provided with raw hides, upon which they slept at night; these were now wet through and cumbersome; I therefore ordered them to be thrown into the high grass and abandoned.

The brandy bottles burst upon the fire. A sergeant of the 'Forty Thieves,' named Fadlullah, had been attending to the heap of burning materials, and I saw him stoop over the flames as though intending to save one of the liquor-bottles for himself. At this moment several burst, and saturated his loose cotton trowsers with blazing spirits. The man vainly endeavored to extinguish the fire, and he danced wildly about, until I seized and threw him in the swamp, and quickly drew the wet green grass over him and subdued the flames. He was severely burned about the legs, from which the skin slipped off in large flakes. I now had to doctor him, when every man's legs ought to have been in the best order. Fortunately I had a little oil, (for the lamp,) and the wounds were quickly dressed, and bandaged with cotton-wool and lint.

The force was now much relieved, as the loads had been lightened. During the operation of burning the supplies, the best share of the 'Forty Thieves' had been stationed to pick off any natives who attempted to spy our movements by ascending the lofty trees. I now gave the order for the advance, and the march recommenced. In a few minutes we were once more buried in the gigantic grass jungle."

On June 24, after a succession of such encounters as these, the force reached Foweera, on the Victoria Nile, with a loss of ten killed and eleven wounded. Subsequently Sir Samuel Baker effected a junction with Major Abdullah, one of his subordinates, at Fatiko, formerly Abou Saood's head-quarters, half-way between Masindi and Gondokoro. There he erected a fort, and, after having repelled an attack from the slave-traders, brought the country into subjection and governed it peacefully for several months. Meanwhile he had made a solemn alliance with Rionga, an Unyoro chief, whom he proclaimed king in place of the treacherous and hostile Kabba Réga. Having established him in authority, and thus practically annexed Unyoro, as he had done the country of the Bari, he returned to Ismailia, or Gondokoro, in 1873, and, as his four years' term of command had then expired, he soon after went back to England.

That Sir Samuel Baker entered upon this expedition from the purest and most philanthropic motives and with perfect confidence that the Khédive was dealing with him in good faith, this narrative abundantly shows. While the Khédive may have originally sanctioned the undertaking under the conviction that he must make a serious demonstration against the slave trade in order to vindicate himself before the civilized world, there can be no question that he soon lost all sympathy with the expedition; and that he has already practically yielded again to the slave traders all the facilities for the prosecution of their infamous traffic, of which Sir Samuel Baker's vigorous operations for a time deprived them. The career of a single individual who figures prominently in this narrative is ample proof of this assertion.

Sheik Achmet Agad, the principal trader of the White Nile, had a contract with the Governor General of Soudan before Sir Samuel Baker's expedition was organized, under which, upon the payment of several thousand pounds sterling per annum, he was granted the exclusive right of trading throughout a territory covering ninety thousand square miles. Over a large proportion of this very territory in which it granted the right to trade, Egypt had no authority whatever. The son-in-law of Sheik Achmet Agad, Abou Saood, was his working representative in the the territory covered by this grant. From the moment of Sir Samuel Baker's entry into the country, this Abou Saood was either openly resisting him, or, while pretending friendliness, was secretly plotting against him. He incited conspiracies among Sir Samuel Baker's officers, swindled the Government out of the ivory due it, was notoriously engaged in slave-trading, and crowned a long career of crime by inciting Kabba Réga to the attempt at poisoning the expeditionary force at Masindi. Affidavits sustaining these and numerous other charges were put in the hands of Nubar Pasha, at Cairo, by Sir Samuel Baker, and he received positive assurances that Abou Saood should be proceeded against by the Government. Shortly after Sir Samuel Baker's departure from Egypt Abou Saood was not only released, but he was appointed assistant to Sir Samuel Baker's successor in the government of the annexed territory. Rather than stultify himself by this disgraceful act, which makes more prominent than ever the fact that he is in reality the patron of the slave trade, the Khédive, so far as his reputation before the civilized world is concerned, might better never have taken a step looking toward the suppression of the infamous traffic.

In this rapid view of *Ismailia* we have given special prominence to the military history of the expedition simply because this was its distinctive character. It was not, moreover, sent out to make explorations. The geography and hydrography of the regions it traversed were already sufficiently well understood, and Sir Samuel Baker does not set up any new theory touching the sources of the Nile as one of the results of his labors. He tells the story of his marches and battles with a bluntness and directness characteristic of the man; and the earnestness of purpose which inspired him is so clearly reflected in his narrative that any lack of literary grace is amply atoned for. Throughout the whole expedition Lady Baker accompanied her husband, and Sir Samuel celebrates her endurance in bearing fatigue and her courage in facing danger as frankly and as enthusiastically as he performed the same duty in the account of his explorations of the Albert N'Yanza. With all the responsibilities which pressed upon him he found constant opportunities for lion, elephant, and hippopotamus hunting, and he relates his exploits with all that zest which makes his works so fascinating to all lovers of the literature of adventure. The more striking incidents of the expedition are admirably illustrated by over fifty full-page engravings, which lend unusual pictorial attractiveness to the volume. While, as a mere narrative of travel and adventure, the work is as absorbing as the best of its class, its chief value lies in the fact that it is the official account of an expedition conceived with the most humane purpose, planned with the greatest care and skill, and conducted with a bravery which reflects the greatest honor upon its energetic leader. The results aimed at were, for the reasons which we have stated, only temporarily attained, but when the history of slavery and of the slave trade shall come to be written, this attempt on the part of Sir Samuel Baker to suppress the barbarous traffic by striking at its fountain head will be regarded as one of the most interesting, romantic, and important episodes in the great contest for the rights of the oppressed.

THE FOUR GOSPELS. With one hundred and thirty-two etchings on steel, after the designs of M. Bida. CASSELL, PETTER & GALPIN, No. 596 Broadway.

This edition of the Gospels has long been looked for with great interest. It has been known in literary circles that M. Bida spent ten years in the Holy Land preparing his designs for the illustration of the sacred text. A part of his work is now accessible to the public, and there can be no doubt that it more than realizes the expectations of those who are best familiar with M. Bida's remarkable gifts.

The Gospel of St. John is the only complete volume which we have had the opportunity of inspecting at Messrs. Cassell's, but that is sufficient to give a fair idea of the scope and plans of the artist. We believe that most people who see it will come to the conclusion that practically the sacred text is now illustrated for the first time. There was about Doré's drawings a fantastic element which, although effective enough in secular literature, is altogether out of place when introduced into the Bible. It is more suitable to the *Arabian Nights* than to the Book of Books. In this respect, as in many others, M. Bida's work affords the greatest possible contrast to M. Doré's. There is a certain severe simplicity about even the most finished of the drawings which every one will feel to be in perfect keeping with the solemn themes treated of. In the most difficult task of all, that of depicting the Savior, M. Bida has avoided the errors of so many artists who have approached the subject. The face of Christ is full of a noble and pathetic dignity, as in the exquisite drawing of "Nicodemus Coming to Jesus;" in the picture of the "Woman of Samaria," the same beautiful countenance is imbued with ineffable compassion and tenderness; and in the picture of the "Paralyzed Man at the Pool of Bethesda" the figure of the Savior is not unworthy of the solemn words in the text. Another work of the same character, in which Divine compassion and love are reflected in the person of Christ, is the picture of Christ healing the "man blind from his birth." The later passages in the history of the Savior—the last command to His disciples; His appearance before the multitude, led by Pilate; the terrible picture of the crucifixion, with the vanishing figures of the Roman legions retiring from their work, and leaving the crucified Savior to the faithful women and to darkness; His subsequent appearance to Mary Magdalene and to His disciples—all these are great and remarkable pictures, full of reverence and dignity, and depicting, as few artists have done before, the form of Him who "spake as never man spoke," the "Man of Sorrows, acquainted with grief." There have been no such illustrations to any part of the Bible until now.

Of the gospel according to St. Matthew we have only seen a single part, but there is in it a drawing simply entitled "Jesus Christ," which would alone suffice to place a very high and exceptional value on M. Bida's work. It is the production of a master. The artist has evidently approached his task in a spirit becoming a man who undertakes to illustrate themes which so large a part of the civilized world regards with veneration and affection. We shall endeavor to describe M. Bida's labors with greater minuteness when they are finished—for the present we must content ourselves with calling attention to them very briefly, and with earnestly advising our readers to become acquainted with them for themselves.

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD CONSOLIDATIONS.

There is a belief in some usually well-informed circles on Long Island that negotiations are being again carried on looking to the consolidation of the Long Island Railroad with the South Side and Central Railroads, and it is even asserted, though without any degree of assurance, that the transfer of the former property has already been made. The absence of Mr. Poppenhausen, Sr., in Europe is accounted for on the belief that he is engaged in an effort to raise a loan on the Long Island railroads in which he has very large interest. The protracted illness of Mr. Charlick would seem to lend color to the probability of such a movement, he being the most active officer of the Long Island Railroad, as well as its President. The death of Mayor Havemeyer also, who was Vice President and a heavy bond and stockholder in the same corporation, could but add to its probabilities; and it is stated positively that his visit to Mr. Charlick, from which he returned on the day of his death, was undertaken mainly for the purpose of consultation on this question of consolidation.

EAST AND WEST.

The St. Louis *Republican* says: "The hostility to legislation in favor of the West, shown by Eastern Congressmen, has been prompted by the interests of the manufacturing and commercial classes. The improvement of the Mississippi, the removal of the obstructions at its mouth, and other projects of a similar character have met with no favor from the members of the national Legislature from Eastern States. This unfriendly action may possibly have retarded development at the West, but it has not prevented it. The natural advantages of the country, its incalculably rich resources, have proved triumphant. If the Western delegation in Congress are true to their constituencies, true to the best interests of the country they represent, the West is now able to take care of itself, shape a commercial policy adapted to its wants, and by so doing become independent of the exactions of the East. We have no animosity against New-York or Boston; but because we have too much regard for the true interests of our own section we counsel the people to pay tribute to the East no longer. Let the West look to its own interest and secure its own destiny; the East can take care of itself."

SUCCESSFUL SUIT AGAINST A RAILROAD.

The case of Emma Smith vs. The Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company was tried last week in the Cole County (Mo.) Circuit Court, and the jury rendered a verdict for the plaintiff for the sum of $5,000. The case consumed three full days in the trial, and was closely contested. The plaintiff, to recover, relied upon the alleged fact that the employes of the defendant negligently left open a switch at the City of Boonville, Mo., by which the plaintiff's husband, who was an engineer on the road, was killed by reason of the train running off the track and down an embankment. Defendant contended that the deceased was not exercising proper care and caution to prevent an accident, and that had he done so he could have discovered the switch was open in time to have stopped the train. Upon this point the evidence was conflicting, but the weight of the evidence tended to show that he was watchful and vigilant, or, at least, that he was looking ahead and saw the switch open, and sounded his whistle for down brakes. The jury was out but a short time, and, it is understood, were unanimous for plaintiff when they first left their box.

THE 'LONGSHOREMEN.

Yesterday morning the State Line engaged a large number of the 'longshoremen at the old rates, and the French and Atlas Lines are also paying the old rates to their employes. The National, the Inman, the Pacific Mail, the Williams & Guion, and the White Star Lines still hold out, and are loading and unloading their vessels with the ship's hands.

THE ARKANSAS BORDER.

FROM SHREVEPORT TO CAMDEN ON HORSEBACK.

THE ROAD AND THE WEATHER—COTTON CROPS—AN ARKANSAS FARMER'S TROUBLES—ASPECT OF THE PEOPLE—THE COLORED RACE—POLITICAL MATTERS.

From Our Own Correspondent.

CAMDEN, Ark., Friday, Nov. 20, 1874.

After leaving Texas I proceeded to Shreveport, where, after the prolonged agonies of a protracted horse trade, I succeeded in providing myself with a fresh charger and in parting with my crippled animal on fair and equitable terms. That I was able to do this sprang entirely from the kindly feelings of the people of Shreveport to THE NEW-YORK TIMES, which enabled me to elude the grasp of the professional horse dealers, and not only to dispose of my lame steed to a gentleman for breeding purposes, but to buy another very suitable for traveling at quite a low figure. My new acquisition was a small black mare, very stout, very spirited, and exceedingly gentle and playful, and she accomplished the 110 miles between Shreveport, La., and Camden, Ark., in four days, without showing any fatigue, although she had to carry a considerable weight; for the exigencies of the seasons here require a man who is traveling to carry with him considerable protection in the shape of shawls and water-proofs against bitter, numbing frosts, and drenching, pelting rains. It is a marvelous thing that business men cannot see the absolute necessity of truth in all their transactions. And yet an Arkansas paper, devoted apparently to fostering immigration, makes the cool statement in so many words that frost is unknown here, and that the farmer has twelve months wherein to make his crops. This is decidedly false, for the frosts here are genuine white frosts, of the most nipping kind, and my friends before I left Shreveport told me to prepare for them, and I fortunately took their advice, thereby comforting the exterior man considerably, but adding in no slight degree to the weight which my beastie had already to bear.

COTTON AGAIN.

The country through which I traveled was entirely forest land, broken by many streams of pure water. The bottoms and second bottoms (as the lands are called which are not hill and are yet not subject to overflow in the flood-time) are extremely fertile, and the soil of the hills seemed capable of producing many crops. But, unfortunately for the people of Arkansas in the south-western counties, they have been bitten by the cotton mania, the most wretched frenzy that ever seized upon sensible men. Last year was a fair average year for the staple, as it is wrongly called, but this year the lands have not produced a fifth of a bale to the acre. The ostensible cause is the drought—the long-continued spell of dry weather which came at midsummer. By the confession of every one, however, with whom I have conversed on the subject, cotton is never a sure crop. To say nothing of the cotton worm, the weather is generally either too dry or too moist for it, though it has always been observed that on virgin soil, no matter how the weather was, the yield is good. This hint given by dear Mother Nature must be taken sooner or later, and farmers will give up cotton as a chief crop in the Southern States generally, and will take to raising things to eat for their true crop, but will reserve a corner of choice rich land for cotton, and will keep it in good heart and pay extra attention to it. By this means they will secure themselves from severe loss, and will run a fair chance of making considerable money when the yield is good.

The consequences of cotton-growing in the part of Arkansas which I traversed were not very encouraging. I stopped on one occasion for the night with a man who owned a saw-mill, cotton-gin, and grist-mill in combination, as they usually are in Southern States. He was very pleasant, very hospitable, and in no way tainted with sectional feeling against Northern men. He told me, when I asked to stop with him for the night, that I should have to expect poor fare, but the reality was worse than I could have conceived. The corn bread, owing, I presume, to the poor quality of the meal, was infamous. It was so clammy and gluey that if I had thrown it against the wall it would certainly have stuck to it. Besides the corn bread there was a dish of bacon, in which a few islets of burned flesh floated in a sea of fat, and there was a bottle of molasses. Nobody ate the meat, but each, taking several spoonfuls of the fat, poured on his plate about an equal amount of molasses, and then beat the two together with a knife. The corn bread was sopped in this, and the whole washed down with coffee as strong as lye, and used without milk or sweetening. Five and six cups of this bitter fluid the party consumed, and I asked myself, in astonishment, how their nervous systems stood such a fearful test. The grown people looked pale, but the children—there were four of them, and all girls—were as fair and rosy as the children of the fairy tales.

EXPERIENCE OF AN ARKANSAS FARMER AND MILL-OWNER.

The paterfamilias told me his experience. For ten years he had been striving with cotton, and twice he had done well; the first time he had sold at a great price, but the second time his broker in New-Orleans had failed, and he had lost everything. Off one hundred acres he had raised this year fourteen bales, and he was sick of the thing. His saw-mill had been extensively patronized by the neighborhood, but nobody had paid him, and he was prevented by the Arkansas Homestead law from collecting. So he ceased to work his saw-mill, although the lumber—yellow pine and white oak and ash—was inexhaustible. There was, however, no market for it, and would never be until a railroad ran from Shreveport to Little Rock. The cotton-gin brought him in something. He got for toll one-thirteenth of the cotton and all the seed, and his grist mill brought him in one-eighth of all the corn ground. It was, however, as bad a year for corn as it had been for cotton, and he felt rather discouraged. The only thing that looked good was the new Constitution, which would bring us emigration, and revive credit, for it had altered the Homestead law. He considered that to be a genuine curse to the State, for it prevented farmers from getting credit save from some pumpkin-head like himself, but he could not get credit for groceries although he was owed hundreds of dollars for lumber.

I said to him, "Suppose a farmer wants a small sum for seed, or for a mule, or for some necessary agricultural implements, how does he get them if he has no credit?"

"Ah," said he, "that's the curse of the thing. If it wasn't for the Homestead law he could get reasonable credit, but now he has to go to a money-broker—a farmer who lends out small sums at fifty per cent.—and gets security in real or personal estate."

I laughed. "How much a bale will cotton have to bring before it can pay that interest?"

"That's true," he answered with a sigh; "but when a man has no credit, and must have the money, he'll have to pay pretty dear for it, and 'tis up-hill work getting clear again, I can tell you."

By this time my stupid faculties had perceived that he spoke feelingly in the matter, and I had more than a suspicion that he had himself been borrowing at fifty per cent. Suddenly it flashed over me that I had met a man on the road who looked a very sore farmer, and who might have been a money-lender. I said to him: "On my road from Shreveport I fell in at a place called Dixie with a man who might well have been one of your fifty per cent. harpies. He carried, I remember, a double-barrel shot-gun and an umbrella, rode a very poor-looking horse that walked very fast, was very tall and thin, and talked with me about the *New-York Money Market*, and the probability of capital finding its way into Arkansas. He lived in Lafayette County, he said, and was well acquainted with Volney V. Smith, the fugitive ex-Lieutenant Governor."

"Ay, ay," he nodded mournfully, "that's one of them. I know him—more's the pity. He used to live in this county; kept a grocery store, and made money. And the worse the times are, the more money he makes." So saying, he filled up his pipe, lighted it, and changed the conversation.

THE COUNTRY AND THE PEOPLE.

As I rode on and on through the solemn old woods, the settlements were very numerous, the bridges were all in perfect condition, and the roads were capital. Emigrants were, indeed, leaving for Texas, but there was no sign of despair among the people generally. On the contrary, all the fields were being ploughed, and the men were repairing fences and felling trees in fifty places along the route. I could not but remark the extraordinary number of children and the beauty of the women, beautiful not only in color and complexion, but in form. Most of them were of the grand matronly type of the Venus of Milo—tall, erect, large hips, white armed, deep bosomed. They were great workers, too. Many times did I see them chopping wood lustily, and some of them told me that, with their own hands, they milked every day nine cows. I questioned them about the use of coffee, and it is a fact that families here have been known to consume annually two bags of 165 pounds weight, at an average price of 35 cents a pound. This makes the really awful sum of $115 50 per annum. And this is spent by people who even deny themselves sugar and milk, and who live more piteously than galley slaves. I stopped for a drink of water at the house of an old lady, who told me that her husband drank a strong cup of coffee every two hours or so, and that he could not live without it. The coffee-pot remained always in the fire-place, and he would come in from his plowing, swallow the hot fluid hastily, and then return to the field. There was one wretched man who not only drank coffee in this way, but ate morphine in extraordinary proportions, and drank whisky and chewed tobacco to excess. The fact is the poor creature was continually exciting his nerves to let him feel the fact of his existence, and then stupefying them with narcotics because they tore him to pieces. But it all commenced with the coffee drinking, which has reached such proportions in Arkansas as to merit medical attention.

THE COLORED PEOPLE.

Wherever I stopped I found the negroes well cared for, satisfied, and more intelligent than those either of Louisiana or Texas. I attribute this to the fact that, being worked in small numbers, they rubbed more against white men, and were polished in proportion. When I reached Camden this greater degree of intelligence was very apparent, and, curious to say, the colored women shared in this superiority. I thought them even more intelligent than the men. They were rather bigoted, however, in their political views, and seemed to rely upon the Republican Party to gain for them social equality. It was in vain that I pointed out to them that this was beyond the power of any party, and, if it ever came about, would be the work of hundreds of years of attrition. They were sure that it would come. I told them that I was sorry they nursed any such desire, because from all that I could learn, the white men of Arkansas were very kindly disposed to their race, and any attempt to bring about the social condition contemplated by the Civil Rights bill would create a bitter hostility which the friends of the colored people might deplore but would be powerless to resist. They were neither silenced nor convinced.

My horse was shod by a colored blacksmith, a most intelligent man. She had never worn a shoe in her life, and was consequently inclined to be misbehaved. But this farrier was so gentle and so skillful that the operation passed off without any mishaps, and, as I felt grateful to him, I said so. It so often happens that men who have anything to do with the brute creation are impatient with them and brutally inconsiderate, that I could not but feel obliged to a man who bore sundry attempts at bites and kicks with imperturbable good humor, and who never relaxed his gentleness, even after the poor scared wretch had turned round continuously on three legs for about fifteen minutes. Times were dull, he said, and as he was not very busy, after he had shod my mare I entered into conversation with him. He was uneducated, and seemed to feel this greatly, though he spoke with pride of the colored public school which had been established in Camden, and which had been attended by over 135 scholars. He told me the teachers were all white, and they were perfectly well treated in the town, boarding where they chose, and visiting on terms of equality with other young ladies of Camden. The public schools, alas! were closed, both white and colored, not by the State authorities, but by the teachers, who refused to receive pay in State scrip, as it was worth only twenty cents on the dollar. Their action seemed inevitable, as their pay of $75 a month, when divided by five, would come out very small indeed.

POLITICAL INDUCEMENTS FOR IMMIGRANTS.

My friend, the blacksmith, had been the Republican candidate for Supervisor of Registration, and although there was considerable to admire in the man, yet he was not suitable for such a position. It has always been the proud boast of the Republican Party that it required for its candidates a very high average of intellect, position, and character, and it pointed with a just contempt to the conduct of the Democrats, who would take their candidates out of the gutter if they could only win with them. This feeling of the Republican Party sprang from that element of conservatism which is an essential part of it. Now in the State of Arkansas there is no Republican Party outside of the colored people and the carpet-baggers, and the latter resort to Democratic election dodges with a facility which shows where they obtained their political education. But, after conversing with leading cttizens of Camden, I became convinced that this portion of the State is profoundly Conservative, and has as much dislike for Democracy of the genuine stripe as it has for the pseudo Republicanism which has settled here like a blight. No one speaks harshly of V. V. Smith; in fact, everybody says kind things of his private character. But he has not a single follower here, neither among the colored people nor the white. If, indeed, the Administration should say something for Volney V., then the colored folks, who, above all things, reverence authority, would support him if he was backed by troops, otherwise not. As far as I can learn, every one is satisfied with the new Constitution, and the hope and expectancy of every one is that Northern immigrants will come and have a look at Arkansas, and Northern capitalists will help them build their railway from Little Rock to Camden, and from Camden to Shreveport.

As to what capitalists had better do, that is for them to determine. But in the matter of immig

STOCKS AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE—DEC. 7.

SALES BEFORE THE CALL—10 A. M.

100	Western Union	82⅛	60	Tol. & Wabash	30⅞
500	do	82⅜	300	do	30⅞
900	do	82⅜	300	do	30⅝
900	do	82⅜	300	do	30⅝
900	do	82⅜	1600	do	30⅝
900	do	82⅜	200	Rock Island	101⅞
900	do	82⅜	200	do	101⅞
900	do	82⅜	300	do	101⅞
100	St. L. & M.	26⅜	800	do	101⅞
200	Pacific Mail	40⅜	500	St. Paul	38⅝
100	do	40⅜	300	do	38⅝
200	do	41⅛	300	do	38⅝
100	do	41⅛	300	do	38⅝
100	do	41⅛	2700	Lake Shore	38⅝
100	do	41⅛	400	do	38⅝
1000	do	40⅝	5800	do	80
100	do	40⅝	1000	do	79⅝
100	do	40⅝	320	do	79⅝
1300	do	40⅝	1000	do	79⅝
100	do	40⅝	500	Ohio & Miss	32
100	do	40⅝	200	do	31⅞
200	do	40⅞	1100	do	31⅞
100	do	40⅞	200	do	31⅞
100	do	40⅞	200	do	31⅞
200	do	39⅞	2400	Union Pacific	24⅜
100	do	39⅞	27.0	do	24⅜
200	do	39⅞	300	do	24⅜
6000	do	39⅞	300	do	24⅜
100	do	39⅞	100	do	24⅜
200	do	39⅞	100	do	24⅜
100	do	39⅞	100	do	24⅜
100	do	39⅞	100	do	24⅜
100	do	39⅞	100	do	24⅜
100	do	39⅞	300	North-western	63⅝
100	do	39⅞	100	do	63⅝
100	do	39⅞	100	do	63⅝
100	do	39⅞	100	do

THE REAL ESTATE MARKET.

At the Exchange yesterday, (Monday Dec. 7,) Joseph McGuire, under a Supreme Court foreclosure decree, F. A. Paddock, Esq., Referee, sold 2 lots together, in size 50 by 100.4, with a two-story brick dye-house on the rear thereof, situate on West Forty-fourth street, south side, 100 feet east of Tenth avenue, for $16,400. The property was purchased by W. S. Yard, for John C. Richards. William Kennally, also sold, under a similar Court order, R. F. Farrell, Esq., Referee, a small one and a half story frame cottage, with plot of land 46.3 by 166.9, located on Union avenue, east side, near New street, West Farms, Twenty-fourth Ward, for $1,800 to J. P. Kellogg, plaintiff in the legal action. No other sales were made.

The following sales announced to take place were disposed of as follows: Sale by E. A. Lawrence & Co., of lots on Nichols place and Prescott street, Dyckman estate, adjourned to the 14th inst. Sale by D. M. Seaman, of the Metropolitan Theatre lease, adjourned to same date. Sale by James M. Miller, of a house and lot on Fifth avenue, south of Eighty-sixth street, adjourned to the 15th inst., and sale by same auctioneer, of lots on Forty-third and Forty-fourth streets, west of Tenth avenue, property withdrawn, the conclusions proceedings having been arranged.

TO-DAY'S AUCTIONS.

For to-day, at the Exchange, sales are noticed as follows:

By A. H. Muller & Son, Superior Court partition sale, P. W. Turney, Esq., Referee, of the following valuable property: Three four-story brick buildings, each 16.8 by 44, with lots 100 feet deep, Nos. 158, 158½ and 160 Bowery, west side, 85 feet north of Broome street; one two-and-a-half-story brick house, 25 by 42, with lot 98.9 feet deep, No. 119 East Twenty-fourth street, north side, 225 feet east of Fourth avenue, and six lots together, in size 99.11 by 150, on the Sixth avenue Boulevard, south-west corner of One Hundred and Twenty-eighth street. Also, executor's sale of one lot, 25 by 100, on Third avenue, east side, 50.8 feet north of Nineteth street. Also, public auction sale of the three-story and attic brick store, with lot 26.3 by 65.11, No. 618 Water street, north side, between Montgomery and Gouverneur streets, opposite Gouverneur slip. Also, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, Henry R. Beekman, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 25.6 by 102.2, on East Eighty-third street, south side, 255.6 feet west of Third avenue.

By E. H. Lndlow & Co., Supreme Court foreclosure sale, George P. Smith, Esq., Referee, of a plot of land, 87 by 69.11 by 17 by 122, on West One Hundred and Twenty-sixth street, north side, 250 feet west of Sixth avenue.

By R. V. Harnett, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, William G. Nicoll, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 22 by 74.2 by — by 79.1, on West Forty-eighth street, south side, 97 feet east of Eighth avenue.

By James M. Miller, Supreme Court foreclosure sale, Charles Price, Esq., Referee, of a house, with lot 25 by 100.5, on East Sixty-ninth street, south side, 475 feet east of Madison avenue.

THE BUILDING RECORD.

For the week ending with Saturday, Dec. 5, plans for new buildings have been submitted, and unsafe buildings reported at the department, No. 2 Fourth avenue, W. W. Adams, Superintendent, as follows:

NEW BUILDINGS.

Light street, No. 50, a brick store and tenement, five stories, 25 by 60; M. Ralphi, owner.

Union avenue, west side, 50 feet south of Cliff street, Woodstock frame dwelling, two stories, 22 by 40; Adam Gois, owner.

Union avenue, west side, 50 feet south of Cliff street, Woodstock; frame, frame stable, two stories, 16 by 50; Adam Gois, owner.

Twenty-seventh street, north side, 25 feet east of Third avenue, a brick stable, three stories, 21.6 by 35.9; John R. Dingledan, owner.

Madison avenue, north-east corner of One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street, a brick store and second-class dwelling, four stories, 40 by 45.1; B. Dreyer, owner.

Courtlandt avenue, (Morrisania,) a brick brewery, three stories, 62.6 by 28; J. & M. Haffen, owners.

One hundred and Twenty-third street, north side, 115 feet east of Fourth avenue, brick store and French flats, four stories, 22 by 52; Charles C. Schilwachter, owner.

Thirty-second street, north side, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, a brown-stone French flat, five stories, 29 by 50; John Fetterich, owner.

Third avenue, south-west corner of Sixty-fourth street, a brick store and tenement, four stories, 25.5 by 50; W. F. Waldren, owner.

Avenue A, north-west corner of Ninety-second street, a brick store and tenement, four stories, 25.8 by 55; Patrick Ryan, owner.

East Broadway, No. 24, a brick store and tenement, five stories, 25 by 55; F. Kerchels, owner.

Second avenue, south-west corner of Forty-third street, a brick store and tenement, five stories, 20.1 by 65; Bernard Kelly, owner.

Fifty-second street, west side, 150 feet east of Fourth avenue, a brown-stone French flats, each four stories, 25 by 60; Evans & Taylor, owners.

Sixth avenue, south-west corner of One Hundred and Twenty-sixth street, five brown-stone first-class dwellings, each four stories, 20 by 47; H. A. Thurston, owner.

Washington street, Nos. 586 and 588, a brick first-class store, four stories, 40 by 75; F. Skelly, owner.

West Eighteenth street, No. 458, a brick tenement, five stories, 25 by 46; W. H. Gray, owner.

Elizabeth street, No. 147, a brick store and tenement, three stories, 25 by 45; John Seibinger, owner.

UNSAFE BUILDINGS.

No. 153 Grand street, unsafe west gable wall; William F. Chrystie, owner.

No. 110 Avenue B, unsafe rear brick wall; J. G. Attrill, owner.

No. 123 Mercer street, unsafe leader and chimneys; Thomas I. Gibbon, agent.

No. 69 Ewington street, unsafe rear stoop; Rhinelander estate, owner.

No. 508 East Thirteenth street, unsafe pier of front wall and arch and lintel; Henry W. Lee, owner.

No. 205 Bowery, (rear,) unsafe brick walls and beams; Loullard estate, owner.

No. 105 Chrystie street, unsafe south gable wall; W. B. Lawrence, owner.

No. 76 Frankfort street, unsafe rear brick wall; Calvin Kline, owner.

No. 72 Frankfort street, unsafe front and rear walls; W. B. Lawrence, owner.

No. 74 Frankfort street, unsafe rear wall; W. B. Lawrence, owner.

No. 76 Frankfort street, front wall and lintel and rear wall; W. B. Lawrence, owner.

No. 544 First street, unsafe rear wall, and window frames, arches; Robert Laird, agent.

Nos. 113 and 115 Walker street, unsafe front wall; Oxley & Colahan, lessees.

No. 144 Elm street, unsafe front leader and chimneys; Warren L. Willsey, owner.

No. 99 Watts street, unsafe front pier and chimneys; M. J. Cody, agent.

Lewis street, south-east corner of Fifth street, unsafe piers of iron wall; Stephen Smith, owner.

BUILDINGS ON WHICH CHIMNEYS ARE REPORTED AS UNSAFE.

No. 221 East Eleventh street, Beard estate; W. J. Merrill, executor.

Nos. 204 and 206 Grand street, Charles E. McElroy, owner.

No. 146 West Twentieth street, Meyer S. Meyers, agent.

One Hundred and Thirty-second street, south side, 50 feet east of Boulevard, Manhattan College, owners.

No. 112 East Seventh street, John Fettretch, agent.

No. 262 West Thirty-second street, Andrew Bouder, owner.

No. 175 Franklin street, John G. Attridge, agent.

EXCHANGE SALES, MONDAY, DEC. 7.

NEW-YORK.

By Joseph McGuire.

2 two-story brick dye-house, rear, and 2 lots, West 44th st., s. s., 100 ft. e. of 10th av., lots each 25x100; sold as one parcel.....$16,400

By Wm. Kennally.

1 one and a half-story frame cottage and plot, Union av., e. s., near New st., West Farms, Twenty-fourth Ward, plot 46.3x166.2.....$1,800

RECORDED REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

NEW-YORK.

Saturday, Dec. 5.

Dominick st., No. 44, s. s., 20x84; J. L. Price to A. Stewart.....$16,000

Downing st., n. s., corner Bedford st., 25x70; A. Eagleton to J. Wilson.....12,750

Prospect place, e. s., 83.4 ft. s. of 43d st., 16.8 x98; Thomas Peeler to Caroline, wife of Thomas W. Richards.....16,500

Same property; Caroline, wife of A. W. Richards, to F. and Emily E. Kaiffer.....16,000

Sheriff st., No. 97, 22x43.8; Sheriff st., e. s., 21.6 ft. s. of Rivington st., 18.3x75; Rivington st., No. 247, 16.8x100; Thomas B. Riley, Catharine A. Riley, Mary, wife of Samuel Roberts, heirs Catharine A. Riley, to Alexander McCue.....1,500

Washington st., Nos. 415, 417, 419; Vestry st., Nos. 51 and 53; Greenwich st., Nos. 432, 436, 438; W. J. Cole and S. R. Hinton to W. J. Wilcox & Co.....174,550

12th st., n. s., 183 ft. w. of Avenue C, 25x103.3; T. Weliner to E. Oppenheimer.....12,000

97th st., n. s., 180 ft. w. of 2d av., 25x69.10; J. D. Gotte to E. B. Smith.....13,650

112th st., n. s., 378.4 ft. w. of 3d av., 16.8x100.10; Elisabeth F., wife of Asher Barnett, to Lucy A. Gilman.....6,500

124th st., n. s., 107.6 ft. w. of 4th av., 17.6x100.11; S. H. Austin to J. Robertson.....15,000

87th st., centre line at intersection of centre line between 10th av. and 11th av., contains 8 acres, 1 rood, 25 perches; 187th st., centre line at point midway between 10th av. and Boulevard, contains 8 acres, 1 rood, 25 perches; Nathaniel Jarvis, jr., to David Dudley Field, jr., in part.....7,000

Fordham av., n. s., corner of 11th st., 250x150; Avenue C, s. e. corner of 1st st., 200 ft. to 2d st., 275; Clinton av., w. s., lots Nos. 16 and 17, map Mount Hope, 100x98; Madison av., w. s., 268 ft. s. of Williams Bridge Road, 100 x100; Thomas av., e. s., 331.2 ft. w. of Welch st., 100x811.1; John W. Mills, Referee, to William H. Wilkins, foreclosure.....17,000

3d av., w. s., lot No. 75, map of Claremont, West Farms, 100x125; 3d av., s. e. s., lot No. 86, map of Claremont, West Farms, 100x125; William Sinclair, Referee, to George S. Goble, foreclosure.....6,600

3d av., e. s., plots Nos. 84 and 85, map of Claremont, West Farms, 100x125x50x100x114, foreclosure; William Sinclair, Referee, to George S. Goble.....3,300

CITY REAL ESTATE.

HOUSES WITHOUT AND WITH EXTRA ground and stable, and eligible lots in New-York and Brooklyn, farms and country-seats on Long Island, in New-Jersey, Connecticut, and New-York State; also, wastelands and manufacturing property in and near the City, for sale or exchange. J. N. WICKOFF & CO., No. 21 Park row, New-York.

FIFTH AV., NOS. 5, 43, 469, 614, 675, 749, 781, and 959, on Central Park, with stable; some bargains. V. K. STEVENSON, Jr., No. 11 Pine st., or No. 31 East 17th st.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

SAN DIEGO (CAL.) LAND COMPANY.—All parties wishing to invest in lots or lands in this rapidly-growing city and terminus of Texas Pacific and Southern Pacific Railroads, with the finest climate and harbor in the world, will apply at C. H. Parker's office, No. 5 Pine st., next THURSDAY, 11 A. M., to examine maps, &c., &c., &c., and complete arrangements for sending an agent to examine lands.

C. H. PIERSON, President.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

ORANGE, N. J.—COUNTRY HOUSES, LANDS, and village lots for sale; a great variety. Also, furnished and unfurnished houses to let for season or year, by WALTER E. SMITH, formerly Blackwell & Smith, Orange, corner of Main and Cone sts.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.

ADRIAN H. MULLER, Auctioneer.

PARTITION SALE.

By order of the Superior Court.

VALUABLE STORE PROPERTY,

NOS. 158, 158½, AND 160 BOWERY,

near Broome st.

HOUSE AND LOT, NO. 119 EAST 24TH ST.

Six vacant lots south-west corner

SIXTH AVENUE BOULEVARD AND 128TH ST.,

to be sold at auction on

TUESDAY, Dec. 8,

at 12 o'clock, at the Exchange Sales-room, No. 111 Broadway, under the direction of P. W. Turney, Referee. Two-thirds can remain on mortgage.

Maps at office of

ADRIAN H. MULLER & SON, Auctioneers.

No. 7 Pine st.

DWELLINGS TO LET.

FURNISHED HOUSES ON AND ADJOINING 5th, Madison, and Park avs., Murray Hill, &c., at reduced rentals. V. K. STEVENSON, Jr., No. 31 East 17th st., or No. 11 Pine st.

TWENTY-ONE MOST DESIRABLE PRIvate residences, belonging to the North American Life Insurance Company, rent per annum from $500 to $6,000, to lease for a term of years.

E. F. PAGE, No. 33 Park row, Manager.

STORES, &C., TO LET.

OFFICES TO LET IN TIMES BUILDING.

SPLENDID OFFICES TO LET IN THE FIRE-PROOF TIMES BUILDING.

Apply at TIMES COUNTING-ROOM.

TO LEASE—THE EXTRA WIDE STORES, WITH basements, Nos. 21, 23, and 25 Mercer st., near Howard st.; marble front building; each store about 25x100 feet; can be rented together or separately on favorable terms. Apply to

HORACE S. ELY, No. 22 Pine st.

TO LET OR LEASE—THE SPACIOUS DOUBLE store, Nos. 718 and 720 Broadway, with basement and sub-cellar; new building and very well lighted. Apply to HORACE S. ELY, No. 22 Pine st.

LOFTS ON BROADWAY.—FIRST, SECOND, third, fourth, and fifth lofts to let from Jan. 1, 1875; 50x200 feet; between Howard and Grand sts. Apply to EDWARD MATTHEWS, No. 4 Broad st.

A FINE STORE AND BASEMENT, 50X100, to let; also first loft, with or without steam power. Nos. 35 and 37 Wooster st.

TO LET—WITH OR WITHOUT STEAM POWER, Nos. 188 and 190 West Houston st.; five stories and cellar, 50x90. Inquire on premises.

SURROGATE NOTICES.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.—PURSUANT TO the order of Herman V. Esselstyn, Surrogate of the County of Columbia, notice is hereby given, according to law, to all persons having claims against ALICE ANN SWARTWOUT, late of the town of Clermont, in the County of Columbia, deceased, that they are required to present the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, executor of the last will and testament of the said deceased, at the law office of G. Tillotson, Esq., No. 335 Broadway, New-York City, on or before the 10th day of June next.—Dated December 1, 1874. CHARLES H. TILLOTSON, Executor.

d8-law6mTu*

CLARKSON, MARGARET.—IN PURSUANCE of an order of Robert C. Ketchum, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against MARGARET CLARKSON, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscribers, at their place of transacting business, at the office of John Henry Livingston, No. 48 Pine street, in the City of New-York, on or before the 8th day of June next. —Dated New-York, the 7th day of December, 1874.

CLERMONT LIVINGSTON, } Executors.
ROBERT E. LIVINGSTON, }

d8-law6mTu*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate or the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against EDWIN HOYT, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscribers, at the office of Butler, Stillman & Hubbard, No. 111 Broadway, in the City of New-York, on or before the eighth day of June, 1875.—Dated New-York, the eighth day of December, 1874.

CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN, } Executors.
WM. ALLEN BUTLER, }

d8-law6mT

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against WILLIAM BARKLEY, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscriber, at his office, No. 36 Wall street, in the City of New-York, on or before the 25th day of May next.—Dated New-York, the 30th day of November, 1874. B. L. LUDINGTON,

d1-law6mTu Administrator, &c.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. HUTCHINGS, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against ANNA C. GIBBONS, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at his place of business, No. 142 Duane street, in the City of New-York, on or before the first day of June, 1875, next.—Dated New-York, the 23d day of November, 1874.

JAMES LYNCH,
Executor, &c., of Anna C. Gibbons, deceased.

n24-law6moTu

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against LEONARD KOHLER, late of the City of New York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscriber, at her residence, No. 18 First avenue, in the City of New-York, on or before the twelfth day of April next.—Dated, New-York, the twelfth day of October, 1874.

PHILLIPINA KOHLMANN, Executrix.

oc13-law6mTu*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against ARCHIBALD RUSSELL, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at her place of transacting business, at the office of H. L. Morris, Esq., No. 25 Pine street, in the City of New-York, on or before the 17th day of January next.—Dated New-York, the 3d day of July, 1874. HELEN R. RUSSELL, Executrix.

jy7-law6mTu*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against HIRAM V. MASON, late of the City of New York, Secretary, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscriber, at the office of Edgar M. Mason, No. 31 Park row, Room No. 20, in the City of New-York, on or before the 10th day of February, 1875.—Dated New-York, the 1st day of August, 1874.

ANN E. MASON, Administratrix
au4-law6mTu* of Hiram V. Mason, deceased.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against THOMAS F. FERRIS, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscriber, at her residence, No. 28 Lafayette Place, in the City of New-York, on or before the third day of March, next.—Dated New-York, the 1st day of September, 1874. CATHARINE A. FERRIS,

s1-law6mTu* Sole Acting Executrix.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against WILLIAM H. DE GROOT, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscribers, at the office of Theodore R. B. De Groot, Esq., No. 142 Fulton st., in the City of New-York, on or before the 18th day of December next. Dated, New-York, the 8th day of June, 1874.

ALICE E. DE GROOT, Administratrix.
THEODORE R. B. DE GROOT, Administrator.

je9-law6mTu*

AUCTION SALES.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S SALE.

STEAM-SHIP WEYBOSSET AT AUCTION.

By virtue of a writ of venditioni exponas, issued out of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of New-York, and to me directed, I will sell

AT PUBLIC AUCTION,

BY D. S. QUIMBY, JR., AUCTIONEER, ON WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9, 1874,

At 12 o'clock, noon, on board thereof, at Roberts' Wall Street Stores, near Wall Street Ferry, Brooklyn,

THE STEAM-SHIP WEYBOSSET,

HER TACKLE, &c.

This steam-ship was built in 1863. Length, 164 feet; breadth, 32 feet; depth, 17 2-10 feet; 710 56-100 tons burden; is in good condition and ready for sea. A perfect title will be given under Marshal's bill of sale.

S. R. HARLOW, United States Marshal, Eastern District of New-York.

BROOKLYN, Nov. 30, 1874.

JAMES K. HILL, Proctor for Libelant, No. 62 Wall st., New-York City.

EDWARD SCHENCK, Auctioneer.

IMPORTANT SALE OF LACE CURTAINS, Table Linen, Dinner and Breakfast Cloths, Napkins, Towels, and Linen Cambric Handkerchiefs, on THIS DAY and WEDNESDAY, at 11 o'clock, at No. 60 Liberty st.; now on exhibition.

DANCING.

A. DODWORTH'S

PRIVATE CLASSES FOR DANCING,

No. 212 5th av., corner 26th st.

Open for the season. Morning and afternoon classes for ladies and children; evening classes for gentlemen. Send for a circular.

C. H. RIVERS' BROOKLYN DANCING Academy, No. 175 State st. Classes for beginners are now forming. All the fashionable dances are taught in one quarter. Send for a circular. Inclose 25 cents for a "Dancer's Assistant."

DE GARMO'S, NO. 32 57TH AV., CORNER OF 14th st.—Afternoon classes on LE MENUET DE LA COUR.

GENTLEMEN Monday and Thursday evenings at 8.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

ADVERTISEMENTS ARE RECEIVED FOR THE NEW-YORK TIMES

At the Times Up-Town Office,

No. 54½ West 32d st., junction Broadway and 6th av.,

And the Times West-side Office,

No. 308 West 23d st., corner 8th av.

NO EXTRA CHARGE WHATEVER.

A LARGE NUMBER OF GOOD SERVANT girls want situations for very low wages; good cooks, laundresses, &c.; City or country; tidy, useful help. Can be seen at the Protestant Home Bureau, No. 158 6th av., above 10th st.

AT JACQUIN'S FRENCH, GERMAN, AND ENGlish Select servants' Bureau can be engaged servants for all capacities, males and females. No. 621 6th av., near 36th st.

AT NO. 1,325 BROADWAY, NEAR 37TH ST.—Mrs. Hardiman.—Select servants, Protestant German, French, Irish, English, Scotch, colored, Swedish; lady expert saves employers trouble and disappointment.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A NEAT, ACTIVE YOUNG woman as chamber-maid and waitress, or chamber-work and washing; is willing and obliging; no objections to a boarding-house; City reference. Call at No. 203 West 27th st., near 7th av.

COMPANION AND GOVERNESS.—BY A YOUNG lady aged nineteen, as companion to a lady, or governess to children; best references. Address New-York Post Office, Box No. 2,814.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A COMPETENT YOUNG girl as chamber-maid and waitress, or would assist with washing and ironing; good City reference. Call at No. 163 West 56th st.

CHAMBER-MAID AND WAITRESS.—BY A respectable young Protestant girl, in a private family; can do plain sewing, &c.; good City reference from last place. Call at No. 243 West 18th st., rear.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A NEAT, TIDY YOUNG woman as chamber-maid and laundress; City or country; best of reference from last place. Call at No. 125 West 49th st.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A GIRL, PROTESTANT, as chamber-maid or waitress, or will do both; is willing and obliging; good City reference. Can be seen for two days at No. 525 6th av.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A PROTESTANT GERman g rl to do chamber-work and waiting, or sewing in a fine American family; best reference. Address No. 39 Sullivan st., second floor.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A YOUNG GIRL AS CHAMber-maid and waitress; has the best of City references. Call at No. 466 8th av.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY AN AMERICAN GIRL AS chamber-maid and seamstress, or housekeeper. Apply at No. 33 Cottage place.

COOK.—BY A SCOTCH PROTESTANT WOMAN OF thirty years, as cook, washer, and ironer, or will assist in the washing; is a good meat and pastry cook; gets up nice side dishes; understands the care of milk and butter; good bread, biscuit, and other baker; City or country; best testimonials. Call at Bookham's, No. 309 4th av., near 23d st.

COOK, &c.—BY A GERMAN GIRL ABOUT THIRTY who is a thorough cook; also, an excellent washer and ironer; City or country; moderate wages; has good references. Call at the Protestant Home Bureau, No. 138 6th av., above 10th st.

COOK.—BY A NORTH OF IRELAND PROTESTANT woman as cook; is a good baker, &c.; is willing to assist in the washing; best of City references; City or country. Apply at Mrs. Whitfield's, No. 260 6th av., between 16th and 17th sts.

COOK.—BY A COMPETENT WOMAN AS COOK; can do family cooking; very good baking, and makes desserts in variations; would assist in washing; has excellent recommendations from her last place. Can be seen at 621 6th av., between 36th and 37th sts.

COOK.—BY A RESPECTABLE YOUNG SWEDISH woman as cook; is a good cook in a private family; thoroughly understands cooking in all its branches; has unexceptionable City reference. Apply at Bedell's, No. 340 4th av.

COOK.—BY A COMPETENT WOMAN AS GOOD, thorough cook and excellent baker; will assist in the washing; can come well recommended as to character; best City reference. Call at No. 203 West 27th st., near 7th av., first floor.

COOK—CHAMBER-MAID.—BY TWO RESPECTable English Protestant girls, together; one as cook, washer, and ironer, the other as chamber-maid and waitress; both are thoroughly and well recommended. Apply at Bedell's, No. 340 4th av.

COOK.—BY A PROTESTANT WOMAN AS PROfessed cook; understands her business in all its branches; has the best City references. Call or address No. 52 East 32d st.

COOK.—BY A RESPECTABLE MIDDLE-AGED woman of experience; will engage by the week or month; no objection to the country. Call at No. 316 East 27th st.

COOK.—BY A COMPETENT WOMAN AS COOK; is an excellent cook; good bread and biscuit maker; is also a good laundress; has the very best City references. Call at No. 402 West 32d st.

COOK.—BY A RESPECTABLE GIRL AS PLAIN cook, and will assist in washing and ironing; two years' reference from her last place. Can be seen at No. 31 East 9th st.

COOK.—BY A VERY RESPECTABLE ENGLISH woman as first-class cook in a private family; lived in some of the leading families of Europe and New-York; just arrived. Call at No. 127 West 31st st.

COOK.—BY A FIRST-CLASS COOK; UNDERSTANDS all kinds of kitchen work; best of reference; the comforts of a home preferred to wages. Call at No. 680 3d av., in the candy store.

COOK.—BY A YOUNG WOMAN AS FIRST-CLASS cook. Call at present employer's, No. 17 East 32d st., from 9 to 12.

COOK.—BY A RESPECTABLE GIRL, AS COOK, AND washing; willing and obliging; good City reference. Call at No. 103 West 18th st.

COOK.—BY A FIRST-CLASS SWEDISH COOK; very best references given. Call at No. 613 3d av.

DRESS-MAKER.—A DRESS AND CLOAK MAKER wishes a few more engagements by the day; can make up all kinds of dresses. Address No. 234 East 54th st., third floor.

HOUSE-WORK.—BY A WILLING, WELL-TEMpered young girl, who can do plain cooking, and can wash and iron well, and will make herself useful wherever her services may be required; wages moderate in a good home; best recommendations. Call at Carpenter's, No. 138 West 11th st., corner 6th av.

HOUSE-WORK.—BY A YOUNG WOMAN WHO knows how to do house-work well; is a good cook, washer, and ironer; wages not so much an object as a home; City or country; strong and willing to work; good references. Can be seen at the Protestant Home, No. 138 6th av., above 10th st.

HOUSE-WORK.—BY AN EXPERIENCED SWEDish girl, as first-class plain cook and an excellent laundress, and is able to fill any situation; City or country. Call at No. 106 6th av., below 9th st., over shoe store.

HOUSE-WORK, OR COOK, WASHER, and Ironer.—By a respectable young woman; is a very good plain family cook and first-rate laundress; has excellent City reference. Call at No. 2 Bleecker st.

LADY'S MAID OR SEAMSTRESS.—BY A French girl, lately landed; understands hair-dressing and sewing of all kinds thoroughly; is neat, willing, and of steady habits. Call at the Swedish Servants' Office, No. 108 East 27th st., east of 4th av.

LAUNDRESS.—AN EFFICIENT LAUNDRESS, (Protestant,) who is capable of doing all sort of fine washing and ironing, fluting by hand and machine; would not object to assist in some chamber-work. Call or address No. 621 6th av., between 36th and 37th sts., first floor.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A CAPABLE YOUNG WOMAN as first-class laundress; understands ladies' fineries and French fluting; will assist with the chamber-work or the cooking, washing, and ironing of a small family; City reference. Call at No. 205 West 27th st., first floor.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A RESPECTABLE YOUNG Protestant woman as first-class laundress in a private family; understands French fluting and doing up fine muslins, laces, &c.; has excellent City reference. Apply at Bedell's, No. 340 4th av.

LAUNDRESS—BY A FULLY CAPABLE LAUNdress; can do any kind of the finest washing, fluting, puffing; has the best of references from her last place. Can be seen at No. 621 6th av., between 36th and 37th sts., first floor.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A RESPECTABLE YOUNG Swedish woman as first-class laundress in a private family; understands French fluting and doing up fine muslins, laces, &c.; has excellent City reference. Apply at Bedell's, No. 340 4th av.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A WOMAN AS A THOROUGH first-class laundress; no objections to go out of the City; five years' good City reference. Can be seen for two days at No. 525 6th av..

NURSE.—BY AN ENGLISH PROTESTANT YOUNG woman as thorough infant's nurse; is capable of taking sole charge and of bringing it up by the bottle; unexceptionable City reference given; a good house preferred to high wages. Can be seen at No. 145 West 16th st., between 6th and 7th avs.

NURSE AND SEAMSTRESS.—BY A SWEDISH Protestant young woman; highly recommended; over two years in her last place; experienced nurse for young or growing children; good seamstress; good operator; has the very highest recommendations from her last lady. Apply at Bookham's, No. 309 4th av.

NURSE AND MAID.—BY A CAPABLE AND genteel English girl; is a good seamstress; can dress hair; can sew on the machine; has excellent recommendations from her last place. Call or address No. 621 6th av., between 36th and 37th sts., first floor.

NURSE.—BY AN ENGLISH WOMAN, A POSITION as invalid nurse; thoroughly experienced in the use of surgical appliances; willing to travel; excellent City reference. Call or address No. 138 West 25th st.

NURSE AND SEAMSTRESS.—BY A GERMAN Protestant woman; is a first-class seamstress and very experienced nurse; is also competent to fill a position as lady's maid. Apply at Mrs. Lowe's, Nos. 316 and 318 Bowery, entrance on Bleecker st.

NURSE.—BY A RESPECTABLE YOUNG WOMAN as nurse, who understands the care of a baby from its infancy; the best of City reference can be given. Can be seen at No. 239 East 54th st., fourth bell.

NURSE.—BY A RESPECTABLE MARRIED LADY without encumbrance, a child to take care of at her own home, would go as monthly nurse. Call at No. 241 West 21st st.

NURSE.—BY A GOOD WET-NURSE, LEAVING ON account of the baby being weaned. Can be seen at present employer's, No. 60 West 56th st.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

NURSE.—BY A FRENCH PERSON TO TAKE CARE of grown children; is a good dress-maker; cuts and fits; does machine stitching. Call at Mr. Florentin's locksmith's store for references, 739 6th av., for 2 days.

NURSE.—BY A PROTESTANT GIRL AS NURSE or second girl; best of references. Apply at No. 43 East 19th st.

SEAMSTRESS.—A FIRST-CLASS SEAMSTRESS solicits engagements by the day; understands all kinds of family sewing; expert operator; excellent reference. Address Seamstress, Box No. 49 *Times* Up-town Office, No. 54½ West 32d st.

SEAMSTRESS.—BY A RESPECTABLE PROTESTant girl as competent seamstress; good operator; would assist with the care of grown children; best City reference. Call at No. 11 East 27th st.

SEAMSTRESS.—BY A COMPETENT GIRL AS seamstress; can cut and fit children's clothes; can be seen at present employer's from 10 to 3, No. 50 West 47th st.

WAITRESS.—BY A HIGHLY RESPECTABLE young woman with eight years' reference; understands waiting in all the different parts; can clean and take care of silver and get up all kinds of salads in the best manner; very neat, kind and obliging, honest, sober, and of fine appearance. Call at Bookham's, No. 309 4th av., near 23d st.

WAITRESS, &c.—BY A THOROUGHLY COMPEtent young woman, who is an excellent waitress; can take charge of dining-room, prepare salads, care and clean silver, &c.; is also a quick and orderly chamber-maid; has very best recommendations. Call at Carpenter's, No. 138 West 11th st., corner 6th av.

WAITRESS.—BY A FIRST-CLASS WAITRESS; able to take the entire charge of silver, china, and glass; is a thorough waitress, and very clean about her person and her work. Call or address No. 621 6th av., between 36th and 37th sts., first floor.

WAITRESS.—BY A PROTESTANT GIRL AS waitress; City reference. Call or address No. 259 West Houston st.

WAITRESS.—BY A COMPETENT GIRL AS WAITress in a private family; good City reference. Call at No. 307 East 35th st.

WASHING.—A RESPECTABLE WOMAN DESIRES washing and ironing to do at her own house, or would take charge of a laundry three or four days in a week, or permanently in a small private family, and make herself otherwise useful. Call or address A. B., No. 244 West 41st st.

WASHING.—A RESPECTABLE WOMAN DESIRES ladies', gentlemen's, and family washing at her house, or go out by the day. Call or address Mrs. Marrion, No. 219 West 30th st.

MALES.

COACHMAN—COOK.—BY A MAN AND WIFE, Protestants, no family; man as coachman and gardener; thoroughly understands the proper care of horses; is a good groom and careful driver; can milk and be useful; wife is a good cook and laundress; City or country; best references. Call or address J. C., No. 876 Broadway.

COACHMAN AND GROOM.—BY A FIRST-CLASS man who thoroughly understands his business; is well acquainted in Brooklyn and New-York; will be found perfect; six years' reference from last employer, who moved to Europe. Address J. M., Box No. 205 *Times* Office.

COACHMAN AND GARDENER.—BY A SOBER, steady Scotchman, who thoroughly understands care horses and carriages; good, careful driver; can milk and tend furnace; good City reference. Address M. D., Box No. 241 *Times* Office.

COACHMAN.—BY A COLORED COACHMAN; IS A superior man in every respect; is one of the best drivers in the City; wages not so much an object as a home; reference from present employer. Apply at No. 18 West 24th st.

COACHMAN AND GARDENER.—BY A YOUNG man, (American,) strictly temperate; is a thorough man with horses, harness and road wagons, and good reference from last employers. Call or address J. M., No. 746 9th av., or Box No. 222 *Times* Office.

COACHMAN AND USEFUL MAN.—BY AN American young man, aged twenty-two years, who can drive and break horses well, wait at table, tend door, clean windows, milk, &c.; good recommendations. Call at Carpenter's, No. 138 West 11th st., corner 6th av.

COACHMAN AND GARDENER.—BY A YOUNG man; thoroughly understands his business in both branches; can be found willing and obliging; can milk, if required; good City reference. Address M. E., Box No. 232 *Times* Office.

COACHMAN.—BY AN ENGLISHMAN; SINGLE; thoroughly understands his business; good references from last employer; City or country. Address P., private stable No. 130 West 45th st.

COACHMAN.—BY A COLORED MAN; FOUR years' reference. Call or address Private Stable, No. 4 East 27th st., from 8 till 6 o'clock.

FIREMAN—THE FURNACES OF THREE OR FOUR private families to take charge of through the Winter, by an experienced and reliable colored man. Address King, No. 138 West 30th st.

GARDENER, COOK.—BY A MAN AND HIS wife; no children; man as first-class gardener; understands the care of horses and cows; wife as cook; woman as first-class cook, washer, and ironer; best of reference. Address F. R., Box No. 234 *Times* Office.

USEFUL MAN.—BY A SWISS FRENCHMAN, forty years of age, lately landed; can walk on the table, drive horses, drive a team, and be generally useful; wages no object. Call at Swedish office, No. 108 East 27th st.

WAITER.—BY A YOUNG DANE IN A PRIVATE family, for moderate wages; has five years' references from Count De Molke in Paris; is very obliging, willing, and a first-class waiter. Call at Swedish Servants' Office, No. 108 East 27th st.

WAITER.—BY A CAPABLE FRENCH WAITER; has great experience in the service; knows well how to take care of silver; is neat, steady, and perfectly honest; City or country; very best reference. Apply at Nikel's, No. 394 8th av.

WAITER—CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A MAN and wife; man as waiter; wife to do chamber-work and sewing; City reference. Call at No. 737 6th av., corner 42d st.

WAITER.—BY A RESPECTABLE COLORED MAN in a private family as waiter; can bring the best of references from last place. Address M. D., Box No. 238 *Times* Office.

WAITER.—BY A RESPECTABLE YOUNG COLored man as waiter in a private family or boarding-house. Apply at No. 19 West 42d st. City reference from this house.

WAITER OR VALET.—BY AN ENGLISHMAN; good recommendations. Address C. S., *Times* Up-town Office, No. 54½ West 32d st.

HELP WANTED.

A YOUNG MAN OF RESPECTABLE FAMily and good education, can secure a position in a law office in this City, where he can learn business habits and acquire a practical knowledge of law and practice; no compensation first year. Address A. D. C., Box No. 187

SALMON CULTURE.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF PROF. BAIRD.

SUCCESS OF EXPERIMENTS IN EUROPE—WHAT HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN IN THIS COUNTRY—SALMON FOR THE HUDSON AND MISSISSIPPI.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 5, 1874.

Among the varieties of food fishes which the United States Commission of Fish and Fisheries consider of the greatest value, and most deserving of diligent attempts by the Government to increase artificially, are the shad and salmon. In a letter, a few days ago, I quoted at length the portions of the report of the Commissioner, Prof. Baird, which relate to the propagation of shad. The experiments with salmon are no less important and interesting, and have been now so long continued that in a year or two, perhaps next season, some of the results will begin to be manifested. Prof. Baird hopes with good reason that this delicious and universally esteemed fish may be restored to the rivers of the United States, so that it will be plentiful in all our markets at prices placing it within the reach of all classes. Many of the details which are contained in the report of the various efforts of the commission, have been published from time to time in the press. The following extracts refer generally to the history of experiments with salmon propagation, and to the purposes and hopes of the commission. The whole subject is treated at length and in a most interesting manner in the report, which is also accompanied by an appendix containing a vast amount of collateral information.

THE SALMON OF EUROPE AND NEW-ENGLAND.

Among the fish, the multiplication of artificial increase of which has most occupied the attention of Governments, the salmon *(Salmo salar)* is pre-eminent. The species is believed to be the same on the Atlantic shores of both America and Europe. It is true that the aggregate of effort in reference to the increase of trout, both in America and Europe, may be greater; but certainly the smaller species of the *Salmonidæ* are very much inferior in actual commercial value to the true salmon.

The interest in the preservation and increase of the salmon is due, in the first place, to its reputation as a game fish, and the sport experienced in its capture, but, perhaps, still more to its great size and economical value. No fish of its magnitude brings so large a price per pound, and is so universally regarded as a chief delicacy. It abounds in all the waters of the North Atlantic, both in Europe and America. Making its home in the sea, it passes into fresh water at periods varying with the locality—sometimes early in the Winter, and again not until Spring—and after remaining some months in the rivers, it seeks a suitable spawning-bed, where the eggs are deposited, after which the adults either return to the sea, or in some instances, as in Nova Scotia and New-Brunswick, pass into the fresh-water lakes, and spend the Winter and early part of the Spring.

The eggs occupy from two to four months in their development, and the young are hatched in early Spring and remain in the rivers for at least one year. There is evidence that a portion remain until the second year, this being especially the case with the females. Then, passing down to the sea as fish weighing a few ounces, they remain there several months, and return in Autumn as grilse of several pounds. These are said to go back to the sea again before Winter sets in, and to return the next season, as breeding fish, weighing perhaps eight or ten pounds each. The growth of these fish is very rapid; and as this takes place in the sea, without the necessity of artificial feeding, it may be readily imagined how valuable a salmon fishery is likely to be compared with one of trout, which, to be of any special economical importance, requires the constant feeding of the fish.

I do not at present propose to attempt a detailed biography of the salmon, as the facts at my command in reference to that fish, in America, at least, are not yet sufficient to warrant my doing so.

As to the important point of the period of their abode in the sea authorities differ, but it is now the general impression, as already stated, that the male fish are mature frequently in three years, and that all are certainly so at the expiration of four years from birth.

The salmon is emphatically a fish of New-England and the British provinces, and never belonged to any of the States south of that section of country. The Connecticut River is believed to have been its western limit on the Atlantic coast, as shown by the testimony of Douglass and others, although some extend their range to the Housatonic. They were also abundant in Lake Ontario and Lake Champlain.

From a very early period the preservation of the salmon fisheries in Europe, or their restoration when exhausted, has occupied a great share of attention. The problem has perhaps been most carefully worked out in Great Britain, where in numerous localities, formerly exhausted, this fish has been restored, to the very great profit of those who control the streams. So far from being a luxury now, unattainable by any but the wealthy, salmon have become a staple fish of Great Britain, and are to be had in the season at prices very little more than are paid for ordinary kinds.

THE SALMON INTRODUCED INTO TASMANIA.

The history of the introduction of salmon into Tasmania exhibits an instance of enterprise highly to be commended, especially when we bear in mind the fact that it was necessary to transport the eggs over 16,000 miles of ocean, during a period of many months, involving an exposure to tropical heat; but which was actually accomplished with a percentage of loss scarcely greater than that at the celebrated establishment at Hüningen. The first experiment in this direction was made in 1868, and, according to Mr. H. R. Francis, failed from an insufficient supply of ice.

In 1864 a more successful trial of sending eggs to Tasmania was made. The eggs were packed between layers of moss as before, being stratified with successive layers of moss, ice, and charcoal, in boxes perforated all over for the free admission of air. The eggs were thus kept from direct contact with the ice, but blocks of ice were placed over the boxes. The eggs were never actually frozen, although maintained at a temperature not far from 32°.

In 1866 a second consignment of about 93,000 salmon-eggs was shipped to Tasmania, and, after a voyage of 100 days, they reached their destination in Hobson's Bay on the 1st of May, and were forwarded to the hatching-house on the river Plenty, as before. About 30,000 eggs were found to be healthy, from which they succeeded in obtaining about 6,000 young fish.

The young fry hatched in May, 1866, were discharged from the pond as smolts toward the end of 1865, while the next lot, about 6,000 in number, was let out in September or October, 1867. Descending the Plenty into the Derwent River, they had a few miles of fresh water before reaching the estuary above New-Norfolk. The experiment is believed to have been entirely successful, though it was not until 1874 that a specimen was taken of what is believed to have been a genuine salmon-grilse, actually born in Tasmania.

SALMON CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES.

The history of the efforts in the United States looking especially toward the restoration of salmon to American waters, may perhaps be considered as dating from a report upon the artificial propagation of fish, made in October, 1857, to the General Assembly of Vermont, by the Hon. George P. Marsh, now United States Minister to Italy, almost simultaneously with one by Mr. A. H. Robinson, of New-Hampshire. It was not until 1864 and 1865 that the Fish Commissioners of the New-England States took measures to accomplish the desired object, and, according to Dr. Edmunds and Mr. William Clift, the first positive effort was made by Dr. Fletcher, of Concord, N. H., in 1866, who visited New-Brunswick for the sake of transferring adult fish alive to the New-Hampshire streams for the purpose of restocking them.

Dr. Edmunds, however, remarks that, according to Mr. Thaddeus Norris, James B. Johnson, of New-York City, procured eggs of a salmon *(S. hucho?)* in 1854, and hatched them in New-York City by Croton water, but that they all died when liberated.

According to Genio C. Scott, Seth Green, by his advice, made application to the French establishment at Hüningen, in 1865, for some salmon ova, and was presented with 80,000 in the Spring of 1866, which were properly packed and shipped. They were, however, delayed in the New-York Custom-house until they died.

Dr. Fletcher went again to New-Brunswick in September of 1866, and brought home 25,000 impregnated ova, of which a large number were placed in the Merrimac River after being artificially hatched, and with the assistance of a net, they were enabled for the first time to ascend the falls at Lowell. Whether any of them returned to the sea is impossible to say; but we may safely consider the date of March, 1867, as the

TOYS AND FANCY GOODS.

TOYS AND FANCY GOODS.

LORD & TAYLOR,

BROADWAY AND TWENTIETH STREET.

GRAND STREET AND CHRYSTIE, NEW-YORK.

Furnishing Goods.

HOLIDAY GIFTS,
For Gentlemen and Youths.

ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO.

Have an extensive assortment of NOVELTIES FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS, IN

FRENCH AND ENGLISH CARDIGAN JACKETS, DRESSING ROBES, SMOKING JACKETS, SILK MUFFLERS, SILK HDKFS., PLAIN, HEMMED, AND INITIAL HDKFS., NECK WEAR OF ALL STYLES.

IMPROVED DRESS SHIRTS, COLLARS AND CUFFS,

Ready Made and to Order with dispatch, and WARRANTED TO FIT.

Corner Broadway and 19th st.

BANKRUPT NOTICES.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, Southern District of New-York.—In the matter of WILLIAM P. BRECK, and WILLIAM B. SCHERMERHORN, as partners composing the late firm of BRECK & SCHERMERHORN; and individually, Bankrupts.—In bankruptcy.—This is to give notice that the second, third, and final general meetings of the creditors of the above-named Bankrupts, and of each of them, will be held at a Court of Bankruptcy to be holden at No. 4 Warren street, in the City of New-York, in said district, on the 19th day of December, 1874, at 1 o'clock P. M. before Isaiah T. Williams, Esq., the Register of said court, in bankruptcy, in charge of the above-entitled matter, pursuant to an order of said Register, for purposes mentioned in Sections 5,092, 5,093, 5,096, 5,099, 5,100 and 5,101 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, title "Bankruptcy," that I have filed my final accounts as Assignee of the estate of said Bankrupts, and of the separate estate of each of said Bankrupts, with the said Register, and that at said meetings I shall apply to the court for a settlement of my said accounts and for a discharge from all liability as Assignee aforesaid, in accordance with the provisions of said section 5,096.—Dated this 7th day of December, 1874.

GEO. H. CAREY, Assignee, No. 65 Wall st., New-York City.

IN BANKRUPTCY.—IN THE DISTRICT COURT of the United States for the Southern District of New-York.—In the matter of ROBERT M. ALLEN, Jr., and EMIL M. BLUM, as partners, comprising the late firm of R. M. ALLEN, Jr., & CO., and individually, Bankrupts.—Notice is hereby given that a petition has been filed in said court by Emil M. Blum, of the City of New-York, in said district, duly declared a bankrupt under the act of Congress of March 2, 1867, and the acts in charge and certificate thereof from all his debts contracted as a member of the above-named firm of R. M. Allen, Jr., & Co., and individually, and other claims provable under said act, and that the twenty-ninth day of December, 1874, at 11 o'clock A. M., at the office of Isaiah T. Williams, Esq., Register in Bankruptcy, No. 4 Warren street, in the City of New-York, is assigned for the hearing of the same, when and where all creditors who have proved their debts, and other persons in interest may attend, and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.—Dated New-York, on the seventh day of December, 1874.

d8-law3wTu* GEO. F. BETTS, Clerk.

NO. 4,983.—IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE United States for the Southern District of New-York.—In the matter of LEWIS FOX, Bankrupt.—In Bankruptcy.—Before Edgar Ketchum, Esq., Register in Bankruptcy.—To whom it may concern: The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as assignee of Alfred W. Bates, of the City of New-York, in the County of New-York and State of New-York, within said district, who has been adjudged a bankrupt upon his own petition by the District Court of said district.—Dated at New-York the 7th day of December, A. D. 1874. ALFRED W. BATES, Assignee, No. 115 Duane street, New-York City.

d8-law3wTu*

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE United States for the District of New-Jersey.—In the matter of GEORGE R. LEE and FRANCIS E. LEE, Bankrupts.—In Bankruptcy.—To whom it may concern: You are hereby notified that a second general meeting of the creditors of the above-named bankrupt will be held at Newark, in said district, on the nineteenth day of December, A. D. 1874, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the office of Stats & Morris, Esq., one of the Registers in Bankruptcy, in said district, (No. 663 Broad street,) for the purpose mentioned in the twenty-seventh section of the Bankrupt Act of March 2, 1867.

E. N. MILLER, Assignee.

D1-law3wTu* No. 789 Broad street, Newark, N. J.

IN BANKRUPTCY.—DISTRICT OF NEW-JERSEY, ss.—At Newark, on the 28th day of November, A. D. 1874.—The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as Assignee of CHARLES D. KENT, of the County of Essex and State of New-Jersey, within said district, who has been adjudged bankrupt upon creditors' petition by the District Court of said district.

E. N. MILLER, Assignee, &c.,

D1-law3wTu* No. 789 Broad street, Newark, N. J.

PROPOSALS.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received by the School Trustees of the Twenty-second Ward, at the Hall of the Board of Education, corner of Grand and Elm sts., until MONDAY, the 14th day of December, 1874, and until 9:30 o'clock A. M. on said day, for the materials and work to be used in the new school building, to be erected on the north side of West 54th st., between 6th and 7th avs.

Proposals must state the estimate for each branch of the work separately, and be indorsed "Proposal for Mason-work," "Proposal for Carpenter-work," "Proposal for Painting."

Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the Superintendent of School Buildings, No. 146 Grand st., third floor.

Two responsible and approved sureties, residents of this City, will be required from each successful bidder. Proposals will not be considered unless sureties are named.

The name of the party or firm submitting a proposal must be indorsed on the outside of the envelope containing said proposal.

The Trustees reserve the right to reject any or all of the proposals submitted.

JOEL W. MASON,
JOHN MORGAN,
JAS. R. CUMING,
ADM. H. UNDERHILL,
WALTER CARTER,

Board of School Trustees Twenty-second Ward.

Dated New-York, Nov. 25, 1874.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Sealed proposals will be received by the School Trustees of the Twenty-fourth Ward, at the Hall of the Board of Education, corner of Grand and Elm sts., until Thursday, Dec. 10, 1874, and until 4 o'clock P. M. on said day, for Additions and Alterations to Grammar School Building No. 66, situated near King's Bridge.

Sealed Proposals will also be received, at the same time and place, for the Desks, Seats, &c., required for said school.

Plans and specifications may be seen at the school, and at the office of the Superintendent of School Buildings, No. 146 Grand st., third floor.

Two responsible and approved sureties, residents of this City, will be required from each successful bidder. Proposals will not be considered unless sureties are named.

The name of the party or firm submitting a proposal must be indorsed on the outside of the envelope containing said proposal.

The Trustees reserve the right to reject any or all of the proposals offered.

MORRIS WILKINS,
GEO. H. MOLLER,
FERDINAND MEYER,
FRANKLIN EDSON,
M. K. HAMILTON, Jr.,

Board of School Trustees, Twenty-fourth Ward.

L. D. KIERNAN, Clerk.

Dated New-York, Nov. 25, 1874.

PROPOSALS FOR OIL FOR 1875-6.

OFFICE OF THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD, WASHINGTON, Nov. 24, 1874.

Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 12 o'clock M. on Wednesday, the 6th day of January, 1875, for supplying one hundred and thirteen thousand (113,000) gallons of the best quality Winter-strained pure Lard-oil, for the United States Light-house service, according to the specifications bearing date as above, copies of which may be had, after Nov. 30, on application to the Light-house Board; to the Light-house Inspector, Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y.; the Light-house Inspector at No. 14 Pemberton square, Boston, Mass.; and the Light-house Inspector at Detroit, Mich. JOSEPH HENRY, Chairman.

DRY GOODS.

A A A

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

THE POLITICAL MURDER.

THE TRIAL OF CORONER RICHARD CROKER—NAMES OF THE JURY.

The trial of Richard Croker for the murder of John McKenna, on election day, was formally commenced in the Court of Over and Terminer yesterday, Judge Barrett presiding. The circumstances of the case are of too recent occurrence to require a detailed mention, the homicide being the result of an affray between the adherents of Ex-Senator O'Brien and his political opponents of Tammany Hall as represented by Croker, in which the deceased lost his life. The interest which centred around the various proceedings in connection with the case has received a fresh stimulus with the opening of the trial; and though there was a marked distinction between the conduct of the Tammany leaders on the Coroner's inquest and that displayed yesterday, their anxiety in the cause of the prisoner was not less evident. They had not changed the character of their policy, but adapted it to the method of the judicial inquiry. Indeed, "Boss" Kelly failed to present himself in court during the day, though it was generally understood he was not far off, and all communications between him and Croker were made through the medium of the numerous men-of-all-work who hang on the outskirts of Tammany. Mr. James O'Brien and the other witnesses to the affray, who will be examined, were also absent, but the political element was represented by Col. Dunlop, Richard Flanagan, President of the Board of Aldermen; "Billy" Walsh, County Clerk; S. G. Courtney, and others. The general *personnel* of the spectators was strongly suggestive of a Tammany primary meeting, but in the preliminary proceedings of impanelling a jury they had little sympathy. The day's session was, on the whole, extremely dull, and mainly consisted of the usual stereotyped questions with reference to the knowledge of jurors of the particulars of the case, their ability to ignore preconceived impressions, and their general fitness in the premises. Several were excused for unchangeable opinions, and a number of others were challenged peremptorily on both sides. The only incident of special note which transpired was the testimony of Mr. Martin Cantillon, a merchant residing at No. 67 Vandam street. He stated that since he received a subpœna he was called upon by two men with regard to his political convictions, but he declined to have any conversation with them. Since then he endeavored to discover who they were, but he did not succeed, and he was unable to recognize any of [illegible] during the day. He stated, emphatically, that none of the jurors whose names are on panded had approached him on the subject, and further attempts on the part of Judge Barrett and the District Attorney to sift the matter proved ineffectual. He was at first accepted as a juror, but was finally challenged, peremptorily, by District Attorney Phelps, who, with his assistant, Mr. Rollins, conducts the prosecution. The prisoner is defended by Messrs. Fellows, Clinton, and Campbell. The following gentlemen were sworn to try the case:

Nathaniel J. V. Lecato, (foreman,) No. 27 Houston street.
Henry M. Bowers, National Hotel.
Henry McGregor, No. 150 West Twenty-sixth street.
Freeman Bloodgood, No. 215 Thompson street.
Jonas Tanzer, No. 11 West Forty-ninth street.
Richard McNamee, No. 140 East Nineteenth street.
Robert Ogleby, No. 443 East One Hundred and Nineteenth street.
Timothy S. Holton, No. 58 West Thirty-first street.
C. B. Rutan, St. Nicholas Hotel.
George W. Young, No. 73 West Fifty-Third street.
Robert D. Lloyd, No. 130 East Thirtieth street.
Enos T. Troupe, No. 361 West Fifty-seventh street.

Judge Barrett informed the jurors that under no pretence could he permit them to be separated during the trial, and all communications with the outside world should be made through the officers of the court. He also forbade them reading newspaper comments upon the evidence, and insisted upon their remaining silent among themselves until the case was submitted for final action. The jurors were then led away in the custody of the officers of the court, and a recess was taken until this morning.

THE TRIBUNE'S CIRCULATION.

A CONDITIONAL ORDER FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THE BOOKS.

The *Tribune* Association recently brought suits to recover moneys alleged to be due for advertising by A. Burdette Smith. The suit was defended on the ground that the advertising had been obtained by misrepresentations as to the circulation of the *Weekly Tribune*. The managers of the paper, the defendant alleged, had obtained the advertising in question by representing the paper as having a circulation of 170,000, whereas, as he believes its circulation at the time was absurdly below this number. On the issue thus joined it is the case the defendant asked for an order to compel the plaintiffs to submit their books for examination by the defendant's attorney. This motion was resisted, two of the officers of the association, Messrs. Whitelaw Reid and Gordon L. Ford, offering instead to submit affidavits showing the exact circulation of the paper at the time the contract for advertising was made.

In deciding the motion, Judge Freedman says:

"It the plaintiff, within twenty days after the service of a copy of an order to be entered on this motion, shall furnish to the defendant a statement extracted from the plaintiff's books and duly sworn to by Messrs. Whitelaw Reid and Gordon L. Ford, showing the circulation of the *Weekly Tribune* between the 15th and the 30th of November, 1874, and specifically, the number of copies printed for each edition, the number of copies mailed of each edition, the number of copies otherwise distributed of each edition, the number of copies returned and unsold of each edition, and, in addition, will stipulate, as offered, to produce at the trial of the action such books and papers in plaintiff's possession as the defendant may specify in a notice to produce—such books and papers to be inspected and used on the trial to such extent and in such manner as the court may then and there direct—defendant's motion for discovery is denied. In case of non-compliance with these conditions, or any of them, the defendant may have, at the office of the plaintiff and in the presence of the attorney or counsel of the plaintiff, an inspection of such of the plaintiff's books and papers as will show the matters concerning which the above statement is required to be given."

NEBRASKA SUFFERERS.

Through the courtesy of Mr. John A. Balestier the lower floor of the building No. 11 Barclay street has been placed at the service of the Nebraska Commission for the reception of clothing given by the citizens of New-York to the Nebraska sufferers. All packages should be sent to the above place, instead of No. 31 Houston street, as announced in yesterday's paper.

FAIR AT FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET CHURCH.

Yesterday afternoon a fair was opened in the Fifty-seventh Street Episcopal Church by the ladies of the congregation, under the management of Mrs. Flagg, wife of the Pastor, Rev. Dr. Flagg. The church was tastefully decorated with evergreens bearing appropriate mottoes, and on the various tables ranged along the front aisle was exhibited a choice variety of useful and attractive wares. Among the tables which attracted attention were the fancy table over which Mrs. Flagg presided, and those of Miss Emma Robie, Miss Josephina Reed, Miss Richmond, Miss Oakley, Misses Noe, Miss Marshall, and Miss Hall. Miss Jessie Combe represented Rebecca at the well, and was liberally patronized. The tables were presided over by the Bible-class. Miss Bowell's flower table and Miss Swartz's stationery table were also neatly arranged. But perhaps the most attractive feature in the fair is Mrs. Dix's New-England kitchen, in which Miss De Forest represents Lady Washington industriously at work upon the spinning-wheel. On the fire-board was an old-fashioned clock manufactured over 100 years ago, and suspended near was a sword used in the battle at Long Island. The fair will last during the present week, and the proceeds are to be applied in the interests of the church.

THE CHARGES AGAINST THE COMMISSIONERS OF CHARITIES.

Mayor Vance declines for the present to furnish for publication the communication handed to him on Friday last by Meyer Stern, Commissioner of Charities and Correction, replying to the Mayor's inquiries as to the indulgences granted Tweed. Commissioner Stern states that his reply is a complete refutation of the charges brought against the commission by Gov. Dix, and that it bases the legality of their action, in connection with the indulgences to Tweed, upon the petitions of the Medical Board and the Warden of the Penitentiary.

MUNICIPAL HONORS TO KING KALAKAUA.

In the Board of Assistant Aldermen, yesterday, Mr. Thornell submitted the following:

Whereas, King Kalakaua, of the Hawaiian Islands, has recently arrived upon our shores for the purpose, as stated, of making himself acquainted with our form of Government; of visiting the capital of the nation and other cities, and of inspecting our institutions of learning and benevolence; and whereas, it is fitting that the Municipal authorities of this City should extend an appropriate and cordial reception to the distinguished ruler of the above Kingdom, the geographical position of which makes it an object of interest to our people, and the commercial interests of which are so closely identified with our country; and in order that friendly relations may be cultivated between the two nations, therefore be it

Resolved, That his Honor the Mayor be respectfully requested to tender the hospitalities of the City of New-York to King Kalakaua and his suite; and further, that a committee of this board be appointed, in connection with a committee of the Board of Aldermen, to carry into effect this resolution.

The resolution was adopted and the committee will probably be appointed to-day.

HARPER & BROS.

No publishing-house in the world provides more readily and more amply for the wants, as to reading matter, of the old, the young, the cultured, and the mere learner, than that of Messrs. Harper & Bros. To say that the list of their works fills a closely printed volume of 300 pages, and that they have, in addition, many subsidiary catalogues, is all-sufficient confirmation of such an assertion. But the important feature of this vast museum of literature is that it is of such intrinsic worth that, without an exception, it does not comprise a work that is not brimful of information and interest. This remark applies to the new and standard collections of novels, all of which are chosen for their high literary character and excellence. The list of new books published by the Harpers is so regularly diurnal and so uniformly excellent in tone that it is difficult to point out the attractions of each, especially as the constant influx of new books into the store has little claim to being a Christmas stock in the ordinary sense of the words. But, just now, the firm have some new books, some which will not be actually on their shelves for a few days, which at this book-buying season will be found to be universally attractive. One of the most striking of them is Wolf's *Wild Animals*. It is a handsomely bound quarto volume, illustrated with twenty magnificent wood-cuts from Mr. Joseph Wolf's designs, and engraved by the Whympers, with descriptive letter-press by Daniel Giraud Elliot, F. L. S., F. Z. S. Mr. Wolf is one of Germany's greatest depictors of animal life, and has illustrated many most important books, such as Prof. Schlegel's large work on falconry, Gray's *Genera of Birds*, &c. Mr. Wolf has also made some exquisite drawings of animal life for the London Zoological Society. His drawings in his new book are replete with life, and are alike remarkable for their ease and anatomical correctness. Published at only $4, and having such a variety of attractive excellences, it should be one of the leading books of the Christmas season. Mr. B. L. Farjeon's *King of No Land* is another of the Harpers' contributions to the literature of the Winter holidays. It is worthy of the author of *Blade-o'-Grass*, *Golden Grain*, and *Bread-and-Cheese and Kisses*. It is a charming tale for the young, and can be read without loss of time by the old. It is replete with humor and pathos, and is beautifully illustrated. The *Little Lame Prince* is another beautiful book for young people. It is sufficient to say that the story, which is charming, tender, and prettily illustrated, is by the world-wide known author of *John Halifax, Gentleman*. One of the most valuable books recently published by the Harpers is Sir Samuel Baker's *Ismailia*, being the narrative of his expedition to Central Africa. It is a work of the most important interest to geographical science, while affording the most interesting and reliable information. Thoroughly illustrated, of a part of the world which has of late years attracted the most earnest attention. In a few days this firm will issue Mr. Nordhoff's *Communistic Societies of the United States*. This book, which is being simultaneously published by John Murray, of London, is compiled from Mr. Nordhoff's own experiences and studies of the various Communistic societies in the country, and is especially valuable from its consequent trustworthiness. The Harpers will issue, too, in a few days, the fourth volume of the "Bazar Series," entitled *The Ugly Girl Papers*. These essays have attracted much attention from their truth, humor, and brightness; but the book will prove an awkward Christmas present from a gentleman to a lady. The best course for both gentleman and lady is to exchange copies, or each buy one for himself or herself.

Among Messrs. Harpers' other recent and leading publications are:

The Atmosphere. Translated from the French of Camille Flammarion. Edited by James Glaisher, F. R. S., Superintendent of the Magnetical and Meteorological Department of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich. With 10 chromo-lithographs and 86 woodcuts. 8vo, cloth, $6; half-calf, $8 25.

The Earth. A descriptive history of the phenomena of the life of the globe, by Elisée Reclus. Translated by the late B. B. Woodward, M. A., and edited by Henry Woodward, British Museum. With 234 maps and illustrations, and 23 page maps printed in colors. 8vo, cloth, $5; half calf, $7 25.

The Ocean, Atmosphere, and Life. Being the second series of a descriptive history of the life of the globe. By Elisée Reclus. Profusely illustrated with 250 maps or figures and twenty-seven maps printed in colors. 8vo, cloth, $6; half calf, $8 25.

Campaigning on the Oxus and the Fall of Khiva. By J. A. MacGahan. With maps and illustrations. 8vo, cloth, $3 50.

Life of Andrew Hull Foote, Rear Admiral United States Navy. By James Mason Hoppin, Professor in Yale College. With a portrait and illustrations. 8vo, cloth, $3 50.

Jacob Abbott's *Science for the Young*. Illustrated. Heat. 12mo, $1 50. Light. 12mo, $1 50. Water and Land. 12mo, $1 50. Force. 12mo, $1 50.

Rev. Dr. Bacon's *The Genesis of the New-England Churches*. Illustrated. Crown 8vo, $2 50.

Bazar Book of Health. 16mo, $1. *Bazar Book of Decorum*. 16mo, $1. *Bazar Book of the Household*. (Nearly Ready.)

Blake's *Arctic Experiences of Capt. George E. Tyson*. With an Inside View of the Polaris Expedition. Illustrated. 8vo, $4.

Parker Gilmore's *Prairie and Forest*. Illustrated. 12mo, $1 50.

Hallock's *The Fishing Tourist*. Illustrations. Crown 8vo, $2.

Pellets for Young Americans. 12mo, $1 25.

Sweetnfurth's *Heart of Africa*. Illustrated. 2 vols. 8vo, $8.

Stanley's *Coomassie and Magdala*. Illustrations and Maps. 8vo, $3 50.

It may not be amiss to remind readers that *Harper's Magazine*, *Weekly*, and *Bazar* begin a new year on Jan. 1, 1875, and are forwarded, postage free, to all parts of the world.

THE FEMALE SMUGGLER.

Mlle. Leonie, the supposed "actress," whose attempt to smuggle $15,000 worth of silks, laces, ladies' underwear, &c., through the Custom-house was noticed in THE TIMES of Sunday, has been arrested by Special Agents Chulker and Williams, of the Treasury Department. It is said that she has carried on the trade for some time past with comparative impunity. Her last consignment, the unsuccessful one, was by the steamer Ville de Paris, which arrived in this City on Wednesday, the 3d inst. The story of her discovery and the seizure of her valuable luggage has already been published. The boldness with which she carried on her illegal traffic is illustrated by the open manner in which her business cards were circulated among the wealthy and fashionable people who constituted her *clientele*. The document reads as follows:

Mdlle. Leonie, Robes, Lingerie, et Haute-Nouveaute, 24 Rue de Grammont, Paris.

As already stated, the list of her customers, which was seized with the goods, is composed exclusively of ladies, well known in fashionable circles. Many of them, in fact, are wives or daughters of some of our most prominent citizens. The "seizure" was inventoried by the Customs officials yesterday, and the proper returns will be made to the Appraiser to-day.

GEN. RAFFOLOVICH'S MEERSCHAUM PIPE.

Some months ago an article on meerschaum pipes appeared in THE TIMES, and among other gentlemen mentioned, Major Gen. Raffolovich, of the Russian Army, was named as being one of the greatest pipe fanciers of the world. Yesterday the General called at Mr. Kaldenberg's, in John street, to get his $150 pipe, which it will be remembered he had made to order in the likeness of his wife. He told Mr. Kaldenberg that he was very much surprised at the notoriety THE TIMES article had given him, and that his friends from all parts of the world had sent him slips about himself from different journals, all copied from THE TIMES. He said that he and his pipes had been mentioned in the London and Paris journals, and that particular notice had been made of the pipe he had ordered in New-York, and that he really believed that had he known that it would have been so much spoken about he would never have given the order for it. The General will sail this morning for Europe.

THE LIQUOR-DEALERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Liquor-dealers' Protective Association was held last evening at Masonic Hall, Mark Lanigan presiding. Forty-two members were admitted, and the President of the Pennsylvania Liquor-dealers' Union, who was present, addressed the meeting, urging them to resist all aggression against their rights. To relieve the anxiety of a large number of the members, Mr. Lanigan was requested to say a few words regarding the prospects. He said that the only thing to fear was the criminal prosecution, as there could be no civil actions, and that there need be no feeling of alarm, as the cases could scarcely be tried this year, and in January the Legislature would meet and take action in the matter, which would be favorable to the liquor interest.

THE SUNDAY LAW.

The question of the constitutionality of what is known as the Sunday law, was argued at length in Common Pleas, Chambers, yesterday, before Chief Justice Daly, by Mr. Charles Wehle on behalf of the proprietors of Terrace Garden Theatre, and by Mr. A. Oakey Hall on behalf of the Police Commissioners. The alleged unconstitutionality consists in the title of the act not containing a statement of the object of the bill, which is claimed to be really to regulate the observance of the Sabbath instead of preserving the peace, as the title indicates.

DECISION IN ADMIRALTY.

Judge Blatchford, of the United States District Court, decided yesterday in favor of the libelants in the suit of James Bigler, of the barge Hudson River, against the steam-tug Nellie, to recover damages for a collision between the barge and an elevator which the tug had in tow. The Judge ordered a reference to be had to determine the amount of damages.

CITY AND SUBURBAN NEWS.

NEW-YORK.

John Mitchel will lecture at Cooper Institute this evening on "Ireland Revisited."

The Woman's Social Educational Society will meet this afternoon at Plimpton Hall, at 3 o'clock.

Commissioner Davenport and Jackson S. Schultz were among the callers upon Mayor Vance yesterday.

The grand champion billiard match between Maurice Vignaux and Cyrille Dion takes place this evening at Tammany Hall.

"Shakespeare's Women" is the title of a lecture to be delivered by Rev. John Weiss this evening at the Union League Club Theatre.

The New-York City Schuetzen Corps, commanded by Capt. Gerdes, gave its second annual ball at the Germania Assembly Rooms last night.

The Dutch Society Eendragt Maakt Magt celebrated its tenth annual St. Nicholas festival by a ball at the Turn Hall last night, which was attended by some of the Netherlanders resident in this City.

Mrs. P. Y. Cutter lectured last evening at Weber's Rooms, Fifth avenue and Sixteenth street, on "Marrying for Money." There was a fair attendance.

The funeral of the late Dock Commissioner William Gardiner will take place to-day from the Seventh Presbyterian Church, at Ridge and Broome streets.

Walter F. Mead pleaded guilty to an attempt at burglary, yesterday, in the Court of General Sessions, and was sent to State Prison for two years and six months.

Messrs. Robert Ray, Cyrus P. Smith, John H. Prentice, Pliny Freeman, and J. Carson Brevoort were yesterday re-elected Trustees of the Green-Wood Cemetery.

Mr. George Vandenhoff gave the third of his lectures on the historical plays of Shakespeare yesterday, at Association Hall. "Richard II." was the subject of his discourse.

The flags on the City Hall will be at half-mast to-day in respect to the memory of Commissioner Gardiner, of the Department of Docks. There are quite a number of candidates for the place.

Samuel Bradshaw, a colored man, was held in $1,000 bail by Justice Flammer, at Jefferson Market Police Court, yesterday, charged with picking the pocket of Mary Smith, an errand girl, of $9.

Edwin Davis, a resident of Jersey City, while going to work yesterday, on Pier No. 47, North River, was assaulted by some unknown longshoremen, and was badly injured about his head and face.

Michael Conners, a fireman of the steam-ship Crescent City, and Patrick Conners were yesterday held by United States Commissioner Shields in default of $1,000 bail each, on a charge of smuggling cigars.

A man who is supposed from papers found in his possession to be Patrick Jenkins, of Albany, N.Y., was found insensible in Greenwich street, near Dey, yesterday afternoon, suffering from the effects of laudanum.

Benjamin Silver, aged twenty-three, a colored sailor, while unloading a vessel at the foot of One Hundred and Fifty-second street, North River, yesterday, had a leg fractured by a large stone falling on him from a derrick.

The following is the weekly statement of Chamberlain Lane: Balance in the City Treasury Nov. 20, $6,788,035 28; receipts since that date, $2,753,507 79; payments, $2,692,360 32; balance on hand Dec. 4, $6,849,182 75.

Mayor Vance, when asked yesterday if he had filled the vacancy in the Department of Docks created by the death of Commissioner Gardiner, replied in the negative, and added that he would not make any appointment at present.

Harris Steinberg, of No. 7 Baxter street, was yesterday committed for trial by Justice Bixby, in default of $2,500 bail, on a charge of receiving stolen goods, and Samuel F. Senton was held in $500 bail to answer a complaint of grand larceny.

The annual meeting of the Society of the Howard Mission and Home for Little Wanderers, No. 40 New Bowery, New-York, will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 16 inst., at 4 o'clock P. M., for the election of a Board of nine Trustees.

The annual election of officers of the Homeopathic Medical Society will take place to-morrow afternoon at the Ophthalmic Hospital, Twenty-third street and Third avenue. Reports as to the condition of the society will be presented.

Yesterday afternoon John T. Kehoe, aged thirty-five, of No. 266 West Thirty-fourth street, while at work on the new building corner of Fifteenth street and First avenue, fell from the third to the first story, and received fatal injuries.

Charlotte Bakewell, lately employed as servant by Mrs. Bennett, of No. 19 West Eleventh street, was yesterday held in $1,000 bail, by Justice Kilbreth, at Essex Market Police Court, charged with stealing $45 worth of property from her mistress.

The convalescent patients at the Blackwell's Island Charity Hospital were given a ball last night, by Dr. Kitchen, Chief of Staff, and Steward Joralemon. This is the first of a series of entertainments arranged for the amusement of those patients this Winter.

The case of the will of John J. O'Brien, contested by Mr. Clifford A. H. Bartlett, special guardian of the minor children, was resumed before Surrogate Hutchings yesterday. Several witnesses testified in rebuttal, and the case was adjourned until Thursday next.

David P. Harris, the Customs Inspector who was arrested on Saturday charged with collusion in passing a large number of smuggled cigars, gave bail yesterday in the sum of $5,000 to appear for examination before United States Commissioner Shields on Saturday next.

A concert for the benefit of the New-York Ear Dispensary will be given at the Theatre of the Union League Club to-morrow evening, at 8 o'clock. A number of well-known ladies and gentlemen, and the Van Weber Quartet, have volunteered their services for the occasion.

In the case of the clerkship of the Seventh District Court, Judge Donohue has decided in favor of Justice McGuire's appointee, Joseph Stibert. Judge Sternberger, Patrick Anthony, was yesterday enjoined from further interference in the clerical functions of the court.

The New-York Neurological Society met last evening at Twenty-third street and Fourth avenue. Several interesting papers were read, and resolutions were introduced by the President relative to the practice of vivisection by physicians, which were discussed by the members.

The meeting of the Methodist ministers yesterday was devoted to prayer and song, and brief experience addresses. At the next meeting Rev. Dr. True will read an essay upon "The Use of Tobacco among Clergymen," to be followed by a discussion upon the same subject.

The members of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, a prominent college society having chapters in most of the colleges of the country, residing in New-York and its vicinity, have made arrangements for a dinner to be given at the St. Nicholas Hotel on Thursday evening next.

Ierath Iroe Davies, an English carpenter, aged twenty-seven, who had been fourteen months in this country, was convicted in the Court of General Sessions on the 28th of May last of assault and sentenced to one year's imprisonment on Blackwell's Island, where he died yesterday of hernia.

While Officer Whelan, of the Ninth Precinct, was endeavoring to quell a disturbance on Sunday at the corner of Washington and Gansevoort streets, he received several dangerous wounds on the head. He succeeded, however, in arresting the disturbers, and they were yesterday held to bail in $700.

The December Term of the Court of General Sessions was opened yesterday by Recorder Hackett. Assistant District Attorney Nolan representing the prosecution. Sinclair Tousey, of No. 6 East Forty-fifth street and No. 117 Nassau street, was selected by the Court as foreman of the Grand Jury.

Mr. J. R. Judd, the well-known athlete, began yesterday at the Rink, Sixty-third street and Third avenue, the task of walking 500 miles in six days and a half. At 10:325 last evening he had accomplished fifty miles in a total walking time of ten hours twenty-five minutes and sixteen seconds.

While John Eckles, aged thirty-three, of No. 411 West Twenty-seventh street, was discharging cargo from a coal barge at the foot of Thirtieth street, North River, the gaff of the derrick broke, and he was struck on the head with the bucket, producing concussion of the brain, from which he died yesterday.

The Twenty-second Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., have elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Colonel, Joseph W. Congdon; Lieutenant Colonel, Albert E. Colfax; Major, N. C. White; Adjutant, Charles J. McCombie; Quartermaster, John Crawford; Chaplain, Joseph J. Jardine; Treasurer, John H. Palmer.

At the annual meeting of the Hoboken Turtle Club, held last evening at the Sinclair House, the following officers were elected: President, James L. Miller; Vice Presidents, Alexander Eagleson and Nelson W. Young; Secretary, James Bruce, Jr.; Treasurer, A. L. Ashman; Stewards, Henry H. Mott and George W. Martin.

In the case of Mrs. Mary Mooney, of No. 514 East Eighteenth street, whose death, it was alleged, resulted from peritonitis, caused by injuries at the hands of her husband, William Mooney, an inquest was held yesterday afternoon by Coroner Eidkhoff. The evidence was most contradictory and vague in its character, and the investigation finally terminated by a verdict being rendered against Mooney, who was committed to the Tombs to await the action of the Grand Jury.

BROOKLYN.

Mr. E. J. Whitlock, President of the Board of Education, sent a request to the Common Council for $12,000 to be devoted to the proper enforcement of the compulsory education act.

At a special meeting of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society held yesterday morning, in the First Presbyterian Chapel, on Henry street, a missionary address was delivered by Rev. Dr. Coan, of Persia.

Thomas Coyne, the man who was shot in his bar-room, at No. 5 Hamilton avenue, on Sunday afternoon, as already reported in THE TIMES, died yesterday from the effects of the wound. The inquest will be held on Friday.

A meeting of the East River Bridge Directors was held yesterday at the company's offices, near the Brooklyn tower of the bridge, at which the Finance Committee gave a certificate of the correctness of the company's accounts.

Resolutions of sympathy with the citizens of New-York for the loss they had sustained in the death of Mayor Havemeyer and of condolence with the bereaved family of the late Mayor were passed by the Brooklyn Common Council yesterday.

The report of the Board of Audit, concerning the accounts of the City Treasurer, Registrar of Arrears, and Collector of Taxes, was submitted to the Common Council yesterday. The results of the examination of the Board of Audit into the accounts of the departments named, have been heretofore published.

John L. Prevost, of No. 12 Eldert street, attempted to shoot Officer Frost, of the Ninth Sub-Precinct, yesterday, while the latter was searching Prevost's residence for a quantity of wearing apparel, which had been stolen from the residence of Mr. William Benk, of No. 774 Broadway, E. D. Prevost was arrested for attempting to shoot the officer, and Minnie Lowrey, a sister-in-law of Prevost, for being concerned in the theft of the property.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

Rev. Joshua Morsell, D. D., has been called to the rectorship of Grace Church, City Island.

The ladies of the Presbyterian Church of Sing Sing will hold a fair and festival this (Tuesday) evening.

The members of the M. E. Church of Mount Vernon purpose giving an entertainment on Thursday evening next for the benefit of the church at New-Rochelle, and Rev. Isaac Jenkins, elder in charge of the district comprising Mount Vernon, New-Rochelle, and Mamaroneck.

NEW-JERSEY.

Rev. John S. Glendenning replies to the card of Thomas H. Jones in regard to his offered testimony in the Pomeroy-Glendenning case. He denies the statements made by Jones.

Detective A. W. Stone, of San Francisco, arrived in Jersey City on Saturday evening with the necessary papers for the extradition of John H. F. Hanson, who was arrested by Inspector Murphy some few days ago for the embezzlement of $4,000 from the California Steam-ship Company.

At a meeting of delegates of the granges of Patrons of Husbandry, from Patterson, Croton Falls, and Golden's Bridge, held at Croton Falls, a council was organized, with the following officers: G. W. Gregory, Master; F. Bailey, Secretary; P. Penny, Overseer; E. L. Horton, Lecturer; Henry Mabie, Steward; V. W. Benedict, Chaplain; George Mead, Treasurer; T. O. Mead, gate-keeper; Mrs. G. T. Bailey, Ceres; Miss Clarissa Horton, Pomona; Mrs. P. D. Penny, Flora; Mrs. C. B. Gregory, Stewardess.

A MYSTERIOUS MURDER.

THE BOOK-KEEPER OF THE "SCOTSMAN" FOUND DEAD IN HIS BED IN THIRTEENTH STREET—POSITIVE PROOF OF FOUL PLAY.

Coroner Kessler was yesterday afternoon notified to hold an inquest in the case of Mr. George Hunter, book-keeper of the *Scotsman*, who had died in the Anthony House, No. 834 Broadway, of supposed fracture of the skull. A preliminary investigation, made by the Coroner and his Deputy, Dr Leo, revealed the following state of facts: Mr. Hunter, who is a native of Leith, Scotland, and forty years of age, was a man of powerful physique and more than ordinary ability. For several years past he filled the position of book-keeper of the *Scotsman*, and took a prominent part in all the Scottish celebrations in this City, being a member of the St. Andrew's and Burns' Societies, and many Gaelic social organizations. About a year ago Mr. Hunter lost his wife and only child, and since that time has not only exhibited symptoms of marked despondency, but wholly gave himself up to dissipation and drink. So much did those irregular habits become a part of his ordinary life that his presence at the *Scotsman* office, it is said, came to be regarded as the exception and not the rule. When embarked on one of those irregular sprees, he gave himself completely up to the fascination of questionable and dissipated society, and cared not into what company he might drift.

On Saturday morning last, Mr. Hunter left the Anthony House, No. 834 Broadway, in which hotel he had been stopping since the death of his wife, and went down town to the office of the *Scotsman*, where he received $86 in money, and over $500 in checks. From the office of the *Scotsman* he proceeded, in company with a friend, to a liquor saloon in Beaver street, where he had several drinks. At this place his friend left him. About midnight he was seen entering a house of ill fame. His entrance was remarked by the clerk of the Anthony House and several other gentlemen who were standing at the corner of Broadway and Thirteenth street. It is said by these witnesses that Mr. Hunter was slightly intoxicated when he entered the house. At 2 o'clock Mr. James Collier, the actor, while going through Thirteenth street, saw a man lying in front of the house No. 100 East Thirteenth street, already mentioned, insensible and bleeding from a large contused wound on the right side of the head. Mr. Collier at once identified the man as Mr. Hunter, with whom he was personally acquainted, and running to the Anthony House informed the day clerk, Mr. Hamilton, that one of his guests was lying insensible and badly wounded in Thirteenth street. Mr. Hamilton at once sent out several porters to carry Mr. Hunter to the hotel.

In the meantime a member of Hook and Ladder Company No. 3, lying in Thirteenth street, between Third and Fourth avenues, by direction of Capt. Henry commanding the company, had removed the body of Mr. Hunter to the engine-house. Capt. Henry searched the person of Mr. Hunter and found but $18 and no checks. Capt. Henry adopted every possible means in his power to bring Mr. Hunter back to consciousness, but without effect. The Police soon after came and removed Mr. Hunter to his room in the Anthony House. Capt. Henry gave the property found on Mr. Hunter's person to the Police, receiving a receipt for the same.

From the time when Mr. Hunter was conveyed to his room until his death yesterday morning, he never spoke a word. While lying on his bed, if the surgeons endeavored to move him, he threw up his arms in front of his head as if to ward off blows, and said indistinctly, "Go away; do not kill me."

After his death, which occurred yesterday morning, a superficial examination of the body disclosed the fact that on both the forearms of the deceased were long black wales, evidently received by him while endeavoring to ward off blows directed against his head. Most of these marks were on the right arm—the same side on which he received the fatal blow in the head.

By order of Coroner Kessler, who will make a thorough investigation, the body of Mr. Hunter was removed to Senior's undertaking store, in Carmine street.

The police of the Seventeenth and Fifteenth Precincts seem disposed to cast cold water on the theory of Mr. Hunter's death having resulted from violence. But Capt. Henry, of Hook and Ladder Company No. 3, declares that he has no doubt Hunter received the fatal blow in the house No. 100 East Thirteenth street, and that so bad was the character of the house, that he forbade any of the firemen, under his command, having any conversation whatever with any of the inmates of said house.

Last night Capt. Siebert and the special officers of the Seventeenth Precinct, were looking for Mrs. Felton and the inmates of the house in which Hunter is supposed to have met his death. Arrests in the case are expected to-day.

THE COTTON MARKETS.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 7.—Cotton—Demand good, at lower rates; Middling, 14¼c.; net receipts, 13,816 bales; gross, 15,337 bales; exports to Great Britain, 5,230 bales; to France, 2,029 bales; to the Continent, 7,236 bales; to the Channel, 2,568 bales; coastwise, 2,268 bales; sales, 4,500 bales; stock, 149,673 bales.

SAVANNAH, Dec. 7.—Cotton dull; Middling, 14c.; Low Middling, 13⅞c.; Good Ordinary, 13c; net receipts, 6,279 bales; gross receipts, 6,288 bales; exports coastwise, 6,844 bales; sales, 1,757 bales; stock, 101,571 bales.

MOBILE, Dec. 7.—Cotton easier; Middling, 14c.; Low Middling, 13¾c.; Good Ordinary, 13¼c.; net receipts, 6,873 bales; exports to France, 1,825 bales; coastwise, 1,987 bales; sales, 2,000 bales; stock, 49,097 bales.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 7.—Cotton heavy; buyers offering lower; Middling, 14c.; Low Middling, 13¾c.; Good Ordinary, 13⅝c.; net receipts, 4,907 bales; exports coastwise, 2,502 bales; sales, 1,000 bales; stock, 55,653 bales.

GALVESTON, Dec. 7.—Cotton quiet and weak; Middling, 14⅜c.; net receipts, 5,863 bales; gross, 6,081 bales; exports coastwise, 77 bales; sales, 1,571 bales; stock, 77,496 bales.

CATTLE MARKETS.

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—Cattle dull; receipts, 2,000 head. Fat Cows and Spayed Heifers sold at $3 50@$4 20; Texan Cows and Steers, $2 60@$4; fair to extra Native Steers, nominally $4@$5 50; shipments, 1,200. Hogs—Receipts, 25,000, making a total of about 65,000 on sale, under which the market ruled dull and lower; common to choice, $3 30@$3 85, with shippers' at $3 75@$3 85; shipments, 5,000. Sheep quiet but firm at unchanged prices; receipts, 600.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 7.—Live Hogs quiet and weak; receipts, 11,000; common, $3 60@$3 85; medium to fair, $3 90@$4 25; good packing grades, $4 30@$4 45; Extra Butchers', $4 50@$4 60; most of the sales at $4 20@$4 40; about 12,000 unsold; shipments, 220.

UTICA CHEESE MARKET.

UTICA, N. Y., Dec. 7.—Two thousand bxs. of Cheese were offered here to-day, and 500 bxs. sold at 12c.@14c.; some September and October Cheese was held at 15c. without purchasers. This market has closed for the season.

WILMINGTON MARKET.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 7.—Spirits of Turpentine quiet at 31½c. Resin firm; $1 85 for strained. Crude Turpentine steady; $1 60 for Hard; $2 60 for Yellow Dip, and $3 60 for Virgin. Tar steady at $1 85.

PRINT CLOTHS MARKET.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 7.—Printing Cloths are quiet, but steady, at previous quotations.

HAVANA MARKET.

HAVANA, Dec. 7.—Spanish Gold, 220@221; American, 228@229. Exchange nominal.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

In steam-ship Oceanic, from Liverpool.—R. C. Watson, Mrs. R. C. Watson, Miss Watson, Mrs. Charles W. Adams, Charles W. Adams, Jr., J. Underner, J. Chaffer, W. Melville, Capt. S. L. Phelps, Ernest Warwick, C. A. Park, Mr. Fyfe, Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Valmassida, Capt. A. Scott, B. Macarenhas, Lieut. R. K. Webster, W. Mack, Mrs. W. Mack, Miss Matilda Mack, Miss M. D. Tuell, Count Puckler, G. Von Ruffer, Maurice Aronstein, William Cooper, J. T. Little, R. H. Franeckel, J. M. Power, Mrs. Vandenhoff, Miss Vandenhoff, R. E. Hall, Mrs. Celis, T. M. De Celis, J. De Celis.

In steam-ship Herman Livingston, from Savannah.—Thos. M. Fleetwood, Thos. M. Howe, L. L. Young, Wm. McKee, S. J. Savage, Mr. Barnett, S. May, R. McGee.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.

Sun rises.....7:12 | Sun sets....4:33 | Moon rises..6:59
Sandy Hook..7:11 | Gov. Island..8:00 | Hell Gate....9:22

HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK.....MONDAY, Dec. 7.

CLEARED.

Barks Mary Pratt, Savin, Dunkirk, France, Brett, Son & Co.; Aberdeen, Salvage, Bari, Fabbri & Chauncey; Lugia, (Ital.,) Rossano, Malta via Gibraltar, Funch, Edye & Co.

Brig M. A. Berry, Berry, Pernambuco, Miller & Houghton.

Schr. William Starrett, (Br.,) Dexter, Oporto, D. E. De Wolf & Co.

ARRIVED.

Steam-ship Oceanic, (Br.,) Jennings, Liverpool Nov. 26 and Queenstown 27th, with mdse. and passengers to R. J. Cortis; Dec. 3, lat. 45 44, lon. 49 22, passed a Bremen steamer bound E.; 5th, lat. 42 29, lon. 62, passed a Dominion steamer bound W.; 6th, lat. 40 41, lon. 68 43, passed steam-ship Celtic, hence for Liverpool; same day, lat. 40 38, lon. 69 05, passed steam-ship Bolivia, hence for Glasgow.

Steam-ship Charleston, Berry, Charleston Dec. 4, with mdse. and passengers to James W. Quimard & Co.

Steam-ship Herman Livingston, Mallory, Savannah Dec. 3, with m